

THE  
SAINTS & SINNERS  
OF ASHOVER.



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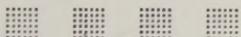
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JEMIMA, Wife of the Rev. Immanuel Bourne.  
(*From a Painting in Ashover Rectory.*)

# THE “SAINTS & SINNERS” OF ASHOVER.



“ You noble Ringers, that at random run  
Observe your orders, and your forfits shun.  
If here you enter, and intend to ring  
Be sure you doe observe here every thing.”

*Leo. Wheatcroft.*



*Compiled by C.E.L.,  
1924.*

*Five Shillings and Sixpence.*

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# The “Saints and Sinners” of Ashover.



## The Church.

“The Church Register, being the poor man’s only Memorial in this world, is a sacred thing. One faint line of manuscript in these oft mouldering documents, is usually the only record of a long life of hardship, and affliction, as bravely, and nobly borne, as the difficulties, exploits, and sufferings of heroes, perpetuated on the brass and marble of our stately Cathedrals.”

—REV. CHAS. KERRY.

**I**N the first centuries of Christianity many of its persecuted followers, in order to avoid a cruel death, and the better to give themselves up to fasting, prayer, and contemplation, retired into remote places, and were called hermits.

From old Deeds, conveying land in Ashover, these hermits are mentioned—

1204-35. Walter, the Abbot of Dale Abbey, conveyed to Richard Venator (afterwards the Hunt’s of Overton) land called Bosco de Morwde (now called Moscow) “where hermits formerly dwelt.”

15th. Aug. 1319. Ralph de Rerisby, son of Robert, conveyed to Godfrey del Stubbynges, in Essovere lands called “le Hermite Ker” (the Hermit Land) lying in the territory del Stubbynge (now Stubben Edge).

Archbishop Paulinus, a follower in the train of King Edwin, of Northumbria, is known to have Baptised his converts, in the year 625, in the river Trent. About the middle of the 7th century, four priests took up their residence to instruct and Baptize, of whom, Diuma became the first Bishop of Mercia, and resided at Repton, where he died and was buried 659; and Betti is supposed to have been buried at Wirksworth, where a stone discovered under the chancel floor in 1821, had formed part of an elaborate tomb.

In 714, Eadburga, Abbess of Repton, sent a leaden coffin for the burial of St. Guthac of Croyland, and in 835, the Abbess Karewara granted an estate at Wirksworth to Humbert on condition that he gave, as annual rent to Archbishop Ceolnuth, lead to the value of 300 shillings, for the use of the Cathedral Church at Canterbury. But although we have many records of Christian activity in the neighbourhood, we unfortunately do not know who was the founder, or when the Church of All Saints in Ashover, was originally built. Early Churches were Chapels or Oratories of the Christianised lords of the

more ancient manors,\* accessible to their dependants and to the inhabitants of the neighbouring manors, whose lands contributed to the support of permanent chaplains. These chaplains, in the early days, were often Hermits, who had come out of their hiding places when the persecution of the Christians was over. The growth of early Churches into Rectories, and their multiplication, was but the work of time.

In 1080, William the Conqueror caused a survey to be made by which he might know the extent of the land which he had, the forfeitures from the English Nobility, and how he could reward his Norman followers. This survey was completed in 1086, and is called the Domesday or Doomsday Book, because it served as a book of Judicial Verdict on the tenure of land. It consists of two volumes, written in Latin with a mixture of Saxon, and is now preserved in the Public Record Office in London. It gives an account of all lands in England, with the exception of the four northern counties, and part of Lancashire. In the year 1783, by order of George III, both volumes were printed at the public expense, and translations can now be seen at most public libraries.

From this we know that:—

Ashover, or Essovre † as it was then called, which means from the Saxon, "Beyond the Ash Trees," was held, about the year 1042, by Leuric and Levenot, two young princes, supposed to be the sons of Earl Godwin, and consisted of two carucates of land, which could be taxed. Land to two ploughs. Three farmers and fourteen cottagers have three ploughs, the total value for taxation being £4. A carucate is the quantity of land which can be tilled in one year by one plough, and therefore varies according to the nature of the soil, but is now generally accepted as being between 100 and 120 acres. Ploughland, is said, by some authorities, to be another name for carucate, and by others, not to contain any fixed number of acres.

There is now, that was in the year 1086, one plough, and a priest and a Church, and one mill of 16 pence. Wood pasture two miles ‡ long and two broad, the total value for taxation being thirty shillings. Described as two manors, belonging to Ralph the son of Hubert, and in the occupation of Serlo.

We thus get the first record of a Church at Ashover.

In the reign of King Stephen (1135-54) Robert de Ferrars, 2nd Earl of Derby, who died 1162, established the Monastery of St. Helen, situated at Derley, about one mile from Derby,

\* "In Derby, Ralph son of Hubert, one church which was Lueric's. Concerning Stori, the predecessor of Walter de Aincurt, they say, that without any leave he might build himself a church in his own land and in his own soke, and dispose of his tithes as he would." DOMESDAY BOOK.

† Other forms of spelling, "Esseovre," "Esseover," "Asheover," but "Asher" is a slang rendering.

‡ The mile was then 1,000 paces or 500 yards.

and endowed this Priory with the funds and rights, now called the advowson, of the Churches of Crich, Pentrich, Ashover, Winfield, Bolsover, and Scarcliffe. This endowment of Robert de Ferrars must have been in the nature of a permission of an over-lord, which required confirmation, as the Church of Ashover never seems to have belonged to the Priory, or have we any record of Robert de Ferrars being in possession of the advowson. Those which remained with the Priory are confirmed in the gift by other persons.

In 1252, the advowson was in the possession of Robert de Willoughby, one of the lords of Ashover, who grants to Geoffrey de Langeleg, one half of the manor and the advowson of the Church, for a term of 22 years. Again this is confirmed in 1256, the rent being given as, one pair of guilt spurs, or sixpence at Michaelmas.

Geoffrey de Langeleg, was evidently a Judge on Circuit, as in 1264, he is granted Protection and safe conduct for his household goods and harness in going through the realm, and is described as being in the munition of the Castle of Windsor and lately come to the King's peace; and in 1281 he is granted protection for going with Edmund, the King's brother, to parts beyond the seas.

On January 20th, 1302, Margery, widow of Ralph de Reresby, gave to Adam de Reresby, her youngest son, the advowson of the Church, and the manor called the New Hall (now known as Eastwood), which she had built in her lifetime.

These transfers of the advowson are quite in accordance with the pedigrees. The descendants of Serlo, who is mentioned in the Domesday Book, held land both at Ashover and Pleasley, and the last members of this family were two daughters, Sarah, the elder, who held the Ashover estates, and married Robert de Willoughby, of Lincolnshire; and Anabilla, who held the Pleasley estates, and who married John Deincourt, of Nottinghamshire. Anabilla's eldest daughter and heiress, Amicia Deincourt, married Isorius Fitz Alexander, who adopted the surname of Reresby, and was known as Isore de Reresby. His only son Ralph exchanged in a charter of three or four lines, the Pleasley estates, with his cousin Sir Robert de Willoughby for the romantic valley of Ashover. This Ralph, the son of Isore,\* married Margery Normanville, and it was this lady who built Eastwood Hall, and gave it with the advowson to her youngest son Adam de Reresby in 1302.

The advowson remained in the Reresby family, until Sir Thomas Reresby, on the 26th of April in the 17th year of the reign of James I., mortgaged his estates in Ashover, including the advowson, by granting a lease for a term of

\* Isore de Reresby died before 1248, Ralph died in 1275, and is supposed to be buried at Barling's Abbey, to which he had been a considerable benefactor.

2,000 years to Sir Francis Wortley, Bart., Sir Robert Mouson, Kt, Anthony Mouson, and Thomas Lewis, on consideration that they paid his debts, and provided £1,500 for each of his two daughters; Sir Thomas died in May, 1619, and the mortgagees foreclosed. It is this deed, which is so often quoted in connection with property in Ashover, and explains the clause, which may now appear curious, of "Two thousand years, from the 17th year of James I." After several law suits\* between the mortgagees, creditors, trustees, and legatees, an order was made by the Court for the mortgagees to sell, which they did, and Eastwood Hall, the advowson, and part of the lands, were purchased in 1623 by the Rev. Immanuel Bourne, who had been appointed rector of Ashover two years previously. The advowson, † remained in the Bourne family till 1797, when it passed by marriage into the Nodder family, and is now held by the present Rector.

The Church, as we see it now, consists of a large and beautiful edifice of stone, in the perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave, two aisles, south porch, and a square embattled tower at the west end, which was mostly built by Thomas Babington ‡ in the year 1419. At each end of the nave can still be seen indications of the height and shape of the former roof, and when the present floor was laid in 1903, some of the former foundations were disclosed between the arches. The South doorway is about 1275; north doorway middle of 14th century, and abundant traces of that date in the north aisle. The rest of the fabric is of the 15th century, the tower and spire 1419, but a good deal of the work much later in the same century. The spire, 69ft. in height, was damaged in 1715 by storm, and 7 yards rebuilt; again in 1854 a small portion was rebuilt during extensive repairs, when the lightning conductor was erected. The total height from the ground to the vane is 128ft. From an engraving of the Church, done in 1792, the outside appearance has not altered, with the exception of the embattlements, which were added to the south aisle in 1875, by John Thompson, who lived at the Dovecote.

\* The position was complicated by a mortgage eight years before for £800, made by Sir Thomas, with Sir Samuel and John Tryon, merchants of London, and the claims of the Reresby family, who are stated to have lost not only the revenue of the estate, but the enormous sum of £80,000 obtained by the sale of lead.

† Eastwood Hall, or what was left of it, seems to have been sold by Immanuel to Henry Dakeyne, as the estate is not mentioned in his will, or that of his wife. Henry Dakeyne, of Stubbin Edge, sold his estates in Ashover to William Michell, of Wingerworth, whose only daughter and heiress, Maria, married Sir James Phyllips, Bart., of Stoke Charites, Southampton. Sir James sold the estate 8th July, 1680, when Obadiah Bourne purchased several parcels including Eastwood.

‡ The gargoyles from the clerestory roof are symbolic of the name Babington, and a stone (inverted) can be seen on the exterior of the south clerestory wall which displays the arms of Babington impaling Fitzherbert.

## The Chantry of Thomas Babington.

From the State Domestic Papers in the Record Office:—

"Nottingham Castle 15th. August, 1511. Thomas Babington, at Dethic, licence to found a perpetual Chantry of one Secular Chaplain\* in the Church of All Saints, Ashover, Coventry and Lichfield Diocese, or the Chapel of St. John the Baptist, at Dethic, to perform service for the good estate of Thomas Babington, and Anthony his son, and heir apparent, and George Chaworth, and Katherine his wife, daughter of the said Thomas; and for the souls of Henry Babington, brother of the said Thomas, formerly D.D.; Sir John Babington, of Chylwell; John Ormond, of Alfreton; Edith, late wife of the said Thomas; Elizabeth, daughter of the said Jno. Ormond, and kinswoman and heir of Sir William Chaworth, and formerly wife of the said Anthony. The Chantry to be called the Chantry of Thomas Babington."

"Mortmain Licence † to grant lands to the value of £4 to the Chaplain."

The Altar of the Chantry, was dedicated to St. Thomas the Martyr, and St. Katherine. The Chaplains were:—

1511. Nicholas Palfreyman. Patron, Thomas Babington.  
1520. Richard Sewdell. Patron, Anthony Babington, Kt.

From the Rutland Historical Manuscripts:—

"1549.‡ Sir Richard Sewdell, Chantry priest of Babington's Chantry in the parish church of Ashover, in the deanery of Scarsdale.

"He has part of a mansion place and garden which is worth no more than 2/- and the repairs. He also has a house with lands let for 16/-; a house with lands let for 24/-; a house with lands let for 14/10; a house with lands let for 10/- a farm let for 13/4; and a yearly of £8 from the lands of the monastery of Oseney. §

"The deductions thereof:—

"He pays to Thomas Babington, and his heirs, the patrons of the Chantry, by composition £4. He distributes in alms, by composition, to seven score of the most indigent householders in Ashover, on each of the six Sundays in Lent 1d., to each in fish and bread, which extends to the sum of 70/-.

\* Secular - living according to the custom of the age, charged with the cure of souls.

† Mortmain - Church lands were exempt from certain taxes, and when property came into possession of the Church, it fell so far as the State was concerned into dead hands. From 1279 the King's consent was necessary for the transfer of land to the Church.

‡ All Chantries were suppressed by 1547.

§ Oseney - Abbey of Augustine Canons, near Oxford. Founded 1129. Changed into Cathedral Church 1542. Transferred to Christ Church Oxford 1546.

On the feast of St. Valentine, at the obit (anniversary of death) of the said Thomas Babington, he gives  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in bread to each of the said householders, which extends to 5/10. On Good Friday he gives  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in bread to each of the said householders, 5/-. On the feast of St. Valentine, there is paid to the choir priests and clerks, and for lights and ringing, 6/-. He has also laid forth yearly 3/4 for the reparation of his house and other ornaments in the Church."

This document is endorsed:—

"Now the landes and tenthes of the Chantre was gyffyn unto the Kynge and the dole takyn frome the parishe."

In regard to the dedications:—

St. Thomas the Martyr would be St. Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, who was murdered before the Altar of St. Benedict, in Canterbury Cathedral, on the 29th December, 1170, and Canonised two years after.

St. Katherine, who was martyred A.D. 307, was a daughter of the King and Queen of Egypt. She was remarkable for beauty of mind and face; she studied mathematics, particularly astronomy; also Plato, and she would have answered, we are told, the questions of the Queen of Sheba better than Solomon did. Her parents died early, leaving her Queen at the age of 14. Emperor Maximin II, ordered her, as a Christian, to be placed in a machine composed of four wheels connected together and armed with sharp spikes, so that as they revolved the victim might be torn to pieces. A miracle intervened; a flash of lightning severed the cords with which she was bound; shattered the engine to pieces, causing the death of both executioners and bystanders. Maximin, however, still bent on her destruction ordered her to be carried beyond the walls of the city, where she was first scourged and then beheaded. The legend proceeds to say, that after her death, her body was carried by angels over the Red Sea, to the summit of Mount Sinai.

The lands belonging to this Chantry in 1547 were valued at £5 0s. 4d.

The Chantry was situated at the east end of the south aisle of the Church, enclosed by handsomely carved screen-work, probably of the same type as the present screen, in which were two doors, one from the south aisle, and the other from the body of the Church, all of which disappeared long ago.

It was in this Chantry that Thomas Babington, on the death of his wife Edith, erected the Monument or Tomb to the joint memories of himself, wife and family.

This Monument, which still remains, is described by a writer in 1835 as follows:—

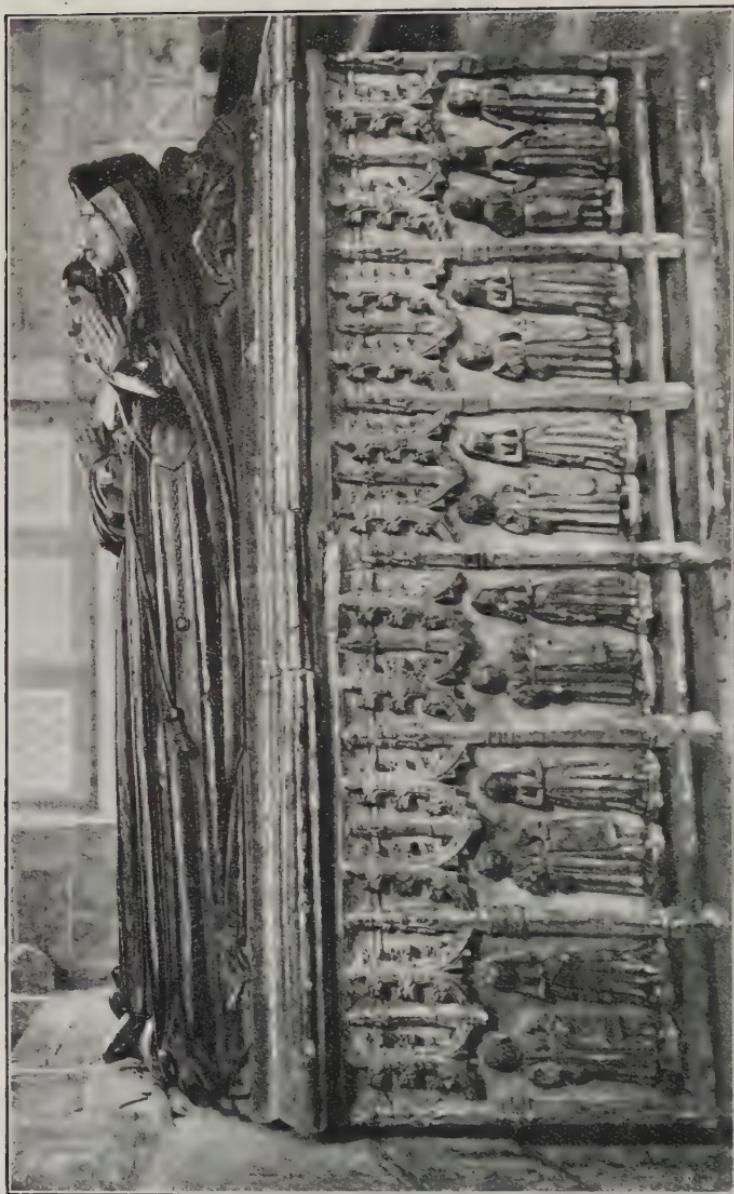
"Upon the opposite side, between the last column which separates the aisle from the nave and the chancel, is a magnificent altar-tomb of alabaster, curiously carved, and

richly painted and gilded. Upon it are two recumbent figures of a husband and wife, represented as large as life. The man is habited in a long red gown, laid in plaits; from his girdle is suspended on the right a large black pouch, ringed, buckled, and tasselled gold, on the left a sword; the hands are elevated as in prayer, and upon the fourth finger of each is a ring. His head is slightly elevated, a double chain surrounds his neck, and his feet rest upon a couchant lion. The countenance is open and noble, and the individual features in good preservation. The lady placed on his left hand is dressed in a long close-bodied red gown, plaited from the waist, from whence by a ribbon hangs a large jewel and gold chain. The head rests upon a sable hood lined with yellow, and there is a ring upon the little finger of each hand. The legs are broken off, but the figure is otherwise in good preservation, and the handsome nose, for which her descendants were so long remarkable, is quite uninjured. Round the tomb, in a series of highly wrought gothic niches, are placed small figures of Knights and ladies, the former having had the matches of Babington and Dethick emblazoned upon their shields, now alas, no longer visible; upon the breast of one figure is a cross fleury, and upon the shields of two others the arms of Babington and Ferrers, and more might doubtless be discovered were it not for an enormous iron railing which surrounds and obscures, yet, it must be confessed, protects the whole. One of the figures, it may be observed, is habited in the costume of the Knights of St. John. There is no inscription upon the tomb; a metallic belt appears to have been wrenched from its margin, where the groove for its reception remains."

The iron railing has now gone, probably removed during the restoration of 1843, when the colouring, as now seen, was done.

On the south side of the Monument there are six niches or canopies, and the figures are undoubtedly arranged, from the west end, in order of family seniority:—

1. Sir Anthony Babington, the eldest son, died 1544, aged 69; his first wife Elizabeth, died 1505, daughter of John Ormond, of Alfreton; his second wife Catherine, daughter of Sir John Ferrers, Kt., of Walton and Tamworth.
2. Sir John Babington, the second son, Kt. of Rhodes, Lord of St. John's, London, Grand Prior of Ireland, 1527. Ralph Babington, the third son, LL.D. Camb. 1503, Rector of Hickling, Notts., where he was buried 1521.
3. Sir Rowland Babington, the fourth son, settled at Norman-ton, near Derby, died 1548, buried St. Peter's, Derby; his wife Jane Ridge, of Kniver.
4. Humphrey Babington, the fifth son, settled at Temple, Rothley, Leicestershire, died 1544; his wife Eleanor, third daughter of John Beaumont, of Wednesbury, Stafford.



*Photo by Shipman, Ashover.*  
East end.

BABINGTON TOMB. North side.

West end.

5. William Babington; his wife Joan, eldest daughter of the above John Beaumont.
6. Thomas Babington, Rector of Yelvertoft, died at Cambridge, 1511, and Robert Babington, died and buried in the Temple, London.  
(George died in infancy.)

On the north side, six canopies, from the west end as before :—

1. Anne, the second daughter, (Eliz. the eldest died in infancy) died 19th June, 1538, buried Teversall; her first husband George Leche, of Chatsworth; her second husband Roger Greenhaugh of Teversall, Notts.
2. Catherine, the third daughter, her husband George Chaworth, of Winerton, Notts.
3. Dorothy, the fourth daughter, her husband Robert Rollestone, of Swarkestone.
4. Jane, the fifth daughter, her husband George Meverell, of Throwley, Staffordshire.
5. Elizabeth, the sixth daughter, her husband Philip Okeover, of Okeover, Staffordshire.
6. Evidently to balance the other side, or representing the two children who died in infancy.

At the west end or head of the tomb, from the south corner :—

1. Angel.
2. Thomas Babington, the father and founder.
3. St. Thomas; St. Katherine.
4. Edith Babington, the mother.
5. Angel.

Edith was the daughter of Ralph Fitzherbert, of Norbury, by Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of John Marshall, of Upton, Leicestershire, and sister of Sir Anthony Fitzherbert, the celebrated Judge. The inscription, which formerly was round the margin, has gone, but in 1798 the only portion that could be read was, "the said Edith deceased" which can still be made out. The exact date when this tomb was erected, or the exact year of the death of Edith, has not been ascertained. Thomas Babington\* died 13th March, 1518, and by his will dated 24th February, 1518:—"I will my body be buried in my parish church of Ashover, nere my wif Edith, if it fortune me to deceas within XX miles of the same . . . But I will not that the Tombe which I have made in the Church of Ashover be broken or hurt for my carkas, but that it be leyed nere the same."

Titus Wheatcroft, in his Memorandum of 1722, states :—  
" Babyneton, who in his days built a great part of ye

\* He is mentioned as the Recorder of Nottingham from 1492 till 1515, and probably held the office until his death.

Church, besides a Quire for his tomb, at which tomb there is this inscription in brass, in that seat on ye right hand the tomb. Here lyeth Thomas Babyngton, of Dethick, Esquire, son of John, son and heyre to Thomas Babyngton, and Isabella hys wife, daughter and heyre to Robert Dethick, Esquire, whych Thomas deceyzed the 13th day of March, 1518. On whose souls Jhv have mercy."

This brass plate was on the pavement close to the south side of the monument, and above it was a brass "representing the figure of death" that is a skeleton brass. The skeleton brass had disappeared before 1798, but the brass with the inscription, having been broken, a gentleman of the parish, about that year, wishing to preserve it, caused it to be taken up, when much to his surprise, it was found to have a Latin inscription on the back. Translated reads:—

"Here lie Robert Prykke, Esquire, Serjeant of the Pantry to the lady Margaret (of Anjou) Queen of England (and) John, Robert and Margaret his children, which Robert the father died on the 23rd day of the month of May, in the year of our Lord 1450. Whose souls God pardon, Amen."

There is no trace, however, of Robert Prykke, or any of his family having had any connection with the parish of Ashover. Perhaps the executors of Robert Prykke, were dissatisfied with the inscription, and refused to accept it, and the engraver utilised the other side on this occasion. In 1885, this brass plate, which was then riveted to the Marble slab above the monument of the Babingtons, was removed, restored, enclosed in a brass frame and fixed to the wall by hinges, so that both sides can be seen.

The Marble slab, which is Ashover marble, formerly had a piece of brass fixed to it, but according to Bassano, who visited Ashover in 1710 "the large piece of brass was rend off and stole away in ye time of the Great Rebellion."

During the war 1914-18 a table\* which was formerly in the Vestry, but was found too large to go back after re-building, was placed as an Altar table in this Chantry, to which was added some old carved oak, found when the Church was repewed in 1903, being part of the old oak pews, and this forms what is now known as the "Soldiers' Chapel."

The picture of Christ which is over this Altar was found by the Rector's second son in the ruins of Ypres on Saturday, December 18th, 1915.

The Piscina† of the Altar is still to be seen in the south wall of this Chantry, but the projecting basin was found broken off when the 1843 pews were removed in 1903.

\* This table is believed to have been the old Communion table.

† Piscina—a basin in which the Holy Vessels were washed.

## The Chantry of Robert de Reresby.

"Robert, son of Ralf de Reresby, confirmed to God, and the Altar of the Blessed Mary, in the Church of Ashover, for sustaining the service of the Blessed Virgin, in that Church of All Saints. Ed. 1."

Ralf de Reresby, died in 1275, his son Robert, married Johanna, and she was living in 1298. At this time Simon de Markham would be the Rector.

Francis Rollestane, described as of "Ley in Hirste" (Lea Hurst, later the home of Florence Nightingale) in the County of Derby, Esquire, by his will dated 20th July, 1586, directed to be buried in "Our Ladies' Quier" in Ashover Church if he died within 14 miles thereof.

Titus Wheatcroft, in his Memorandum of 1722, informs us:—

"There is an antient tomb in Rolleston quire, which is in ye North corner of ye body of ye Church (and Reresbie tombe hard by on ye right hand) the description of Rolleston tombe is as hereafter followeth." The inscription is in Latin, which translated reads:—

"Here lies the body of Francis Rolleston, Esquire, and Mary his wife, daughter of John Vernon, Kt., which Francis died 3rd August 1587."

Titus continues:—

"Reresbys lie in their Quire, and the Rollestons. In this quire there is a vault, and it is under this Tomb-stone where the family of Gladwins'\* is there interred."

Bassano † in 1710, describes this tomb as A large alabaster stone bearing the portraiture of a man and his wife, and the inscription (as stated above) at their feet.

The Francis, of this tomb, was the son of Thomas Rolleston, of Mathefield (now Mayfield, near Ashbourne) and Elizabeth Turvile, and grandson of James Rolleston, of the brass within the Communion rails. It is stated by some historians, that this Francis devised a plan, whereby Mary, Queen of Scots, could have escaped. He was, however, betrayed by his own son, flung into the Tower, and beheaded, but there is no evidence of his execution. He was arrested and imprisoned in or about 1571; on 17th November, 1575, an Agreement of Compromise, of certain controversies between him and his son George, was awarded by the Lord Chief Justice of England, the Master of the Rolls, the Attorney, and Solicitor General. He was Plaintiff in a Chancery action to recover rents due from tenants of Mathefield Manor in 1579, which Manor had come to his brother James in 1537, and he is believed to have been a very old man when he died.

\* "Gladwins Vault was opened by Francis Wharton in 1801, in the north corner of the body of the Church." Note in Benjamin Wall's burial register.

† Francis Bassano, herald painter and antiquarian, of Derby, born 1675, died 1746.

A writer in 1835 gives the following details of monuments in this Chantry:—

"In the north, or Rolleston's aisle, at the eastern extremity, are two large slabs of alabaster, forming a part of the pavement but so defaced by feet, and hidden by pews, as to be absolutely beyond decyphering. That next to the north wall bore anciently,"

The inscription is given in Latin, translated reads:—

" . . . . esquire and Isabella his wife, daughter of Robert Dethick, son and heir . . . . "

This slab would be to the memory of Thomas Babington, who married Isabella Dethick, in or about 1431, and he died in 1464, they would be the grandparents of Thomas of the Tomb in the south aisle. This writer goes on to say, that the other slab seems to have been to the memory of Francis Rolleston, and Mary his wife.

A note, evidently by another hand, in the Titus MSS. 1722, states that these stones have been of late years taken up and put against the wall in the Chancel, but Cox in his notes on the Churches of Derbyshire, 1875, states that they no longer exist.

When the present floor was laid in 1903, four slabs of alabaster, which are now against the north wall of the churchyard, were found under the old floor in this Chantry, and these may have been parts of these tombs.

Of the "Reresbie tombe hard by on ye right hand" we have no details and it no longer exists.

Bassano in 1710, describes a monument in the Rolleston Quire as:—

"A marble stone, on which a peece of brass with an image, at whose head hath laine a peece of brass forme of a shield."

This may have been the "Reresbie Tombe," which Titus mentions, or a very rough description of the James Rolleston Brass, which was removed from this Chantry on February 4th, 1804, to within the Communion rails.

The Saint's Bracket is still to be seen, and its height from the ground indicates that the image was of great value.

This Chantry was railed off from the rest of the Church, and styled the "Rolleston Quire,"\* but this seems also to have been removed in 1798 or earlier.

From a plan of the Church, dated 1824, the floor of this Chantry appears to have been some 18 inches above the level of the body of the Church, as three steps are shewn leading up to it.

Of the Chaplains, we only know that, Milo Whitworth, described as lately incumbent, received a pension of £6 in the time of Philip and Mary.

The carved oak Reredos, which now stands in this Chantry,

\* We have found no dedication of this Chantry to the Rollestons.

was presented by Mrs. Jessop, of Overton Hall, in memory of her husband. It was placed in the Church, October 13th, 1894, and dedicated by the Rector during the Harvest Festival. † The carving was done by George Eastwood, and the design in bas-relief of vine and grapes is in token of Our Saviour who calls himself the Vine. (St. John XV.)

### Pedigree of the Reresby Family.

HUGH FITZ OSBERN. Lord of Pulford, Cheshire, called "Blundus" or "The Fair." Held many Manors in Cheshire, also Kettlesby and Ormesby in Lincoln. Witnessed a Charter of Earl Hugh in 1086.

OSBERN FITZ HUGH. Lord of Pulford, called "Meschines" or "The Younger." A witness to Richard, Earl of Chester's Charter to the Abbey of St. Werburgh in 1119.

ALEXANDER. Married Julian de Reresby, who is said to have been of the family of the Lords of Snelleslund; he died before 1194.

ISORIUS FITZ ALEXANDER. Surnamed de Reresby; party to a suit in 1194; held lands in Reresby, Steynton, Snelleslund, Suntorp, and Hyngham, Lincolnshire; Lord of Plesley, Derbyshire, in right of his wife; died before 1248; he married Amicia, eldest daughter of John Deincourt.

RALPH DE RERESBY. Lord of Plesley; exchanged the Manor of Plesley for the Manor of Ashover. Coroner for Notts. and Derby, 1269; gave his Lincolnshire estate to Barling's Abbey; died 1275 when his goods were seized by the King; married 2nd Margery, sister and heir to Sir Adam de Normanville, Lord of Thriburgh, Yorkshire, and other Manors. Richard, his younger son held a house and 7½ Bovates † of land in Ashover.

SIR ADAM DE RERESBY. Lord of Thriburgh and Ashover; taken prisoner at Boroughbridge, March 16th, 1322; a benefactor to Beauchief Abbey; living in 1349, when probably in his 90th year; married Thethegne an heiress.

SIR RALPH DE RERESBY. Kt. of the Shire of Derbyshire in 1325.

SIR THOMAS RERESBY. Engaged in the French wars of Ed. III. as recorded in a deed dated 1352,

SIR THOMAS RERESBY. Served in the wars with his father from 1338; succeeded to Thriburgh before 1383; died 1394.

‡ A feast of thanksgiving for the first fruits of the corn, dates from Saxon times, when the Church had its Hlafmaesse, or Loaf-mass, from the offering of a loaf of bread made of the new corn. But Harvest Thanksgiving as now celebrated, owes its origin to the Rev. R. S. Hawker, the eccentric Vicar of Morwenstow, Cornwall, who, on October 1st, 1843, set apart a day for the purpose of thanking Almighty God for the fruits of the earth. Slightly later Archdeacon Denison sanctified the Harvest-Home in the parish of East Brent, Somerset.

† Bovate - as much land as one ox can plough in a year, about 15 acres.

SIR THOMAS RERESBY. Saw military service before 1393; died 1439.

WILLIAM DE RERESBY. Parson of Thriburgh, 1403; died about 1470.

RALPH DE RERESBY. (nephew) died 1530.

THOMAS RERESBY. Built a great part of Thriburgh house.

LIONEL RERESBY. Built Dennaby Hall, near Mexborough, where his widow was residing in 1577.

THOMAS RERESBY. Added much to Thriburgh.

SIR THOMAS RERESBY. Succeeded his father in 1586; mortgaged his Ashover estates; died 1619.

## The Bells.

The eight Bells now in the Church are as follows:—

1. Diameter 2ft. 4in. Weight 5cwt. 0qrs. 18lbs. Note E. "Fear God, Honour the King Edward VII." Cast by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough, June, 1902.
2. Diameter 2ft. 4½in. Weight 5cwt. 0qrs. 19lbs. Note D sharp. "To the Glory of God this bell is given, in loving Memory of Frederick Stanley Fenton, who died April 9th, 1883. By his Parents Frederick J. Fenton, and Sarah Davon Fenton." "J. B. Nodder, Rector. J. P. Jackson, W. Else, Churchwardens, 1890." Cast by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough.
3. Diameter 2ft. 7in. Weight 6cwt. 1qr. 18lbs. Note C sharp. "The old bell rung the fall of Bonaparte, and broke, April, 1814." "Rev. Lawrence Short, Rector. William Eaton, Geo. Bamford, Churchwardens." Recast 1814, by J. & E. Smith, Chesterfield, and 1890, by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough.
4. Diameter 2ft. 10¼in. Weight 7cwt. 1qr. 14lbs. Note B. "I sweetly tolling men do call, To taste on meats that Feede the Soule. 1625."
5. Diameter 3ft. 0¼in. Weight 8cwt. 1qr. 17lbs. Note A "My Roaringe sounde doth warning give, That men cannot heare always live. 1625." Recast by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough. 1902. †
6. Diameter 3ft. 2½in. Weight 10cwt. 3qrs. 9lbs. Note G sharp. "Abraham Redfin. C.W. 1751. Thomas Headdesly, Founder." Recast by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough, 1890.
7. Diameter 3ft. 4½in. Weight 10cwt. 2qrs. 0lbs. Note F sharp. "All Men that heare my mournful sound, repent before you are in ground. R.B.-G.C. Churchwardens. I.B. 1630." The founders mark is that of George Oldfield.
8. Diameter 3ft. 11in. Weight 18cwt. 0qrs. 10lbs. Note E. "To the Glory of God, and in Memory of Samuel Burkitt, of Stubbing Court. Given by his son, 1902." Cast by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough.

† This bell seems to have also been recast in 1736.

Titus Wheatcroft tells us, in his Memorandum of 1722, that there are four good Tunable bells, and a Tingtang in the Steeple, and also what is "writt" on each bell. From this description we can identify his numbers 1, 2 and 4, with the above 4, 5 and 7, respectively, but the Motto of his number 3, "Antomus movet ut campana," which he translates, "The mind moveth as the Bell," no longer exists. We therefore conclude that this number 3 is the "Bonaparte" bell, and that the old inscription was not reproduced when it was recast in 1814.

A note in Leonard Wheatcroft's book, † informs us that the fifth bell was cast by Abraham Redfearn and Anthony Hopkinson in 1752. These were the Churchwardens at that date, but as Leonard died in 1706, this note must be by another hand, and the information must refer to the above number six.

We doubt the following entry in the Titus MSS. of 1722:—

"ye new Trible Bell was designed by G. H. & A. (viz. George Hodgkinson, of Overton Hall, and Anne, his wife) with Sam and George, their eldest sons. Done by W. H. & E. and O. H. & R. their younger children, (no date on this Bell, but cast in ye year 1724)." ‡

George Hodgkinson, who married Anne, died 16th July, 1692, was a farmer, and not likely to be able to design a Church bell, his son William, who married Eliz. Ferne, of Bonsall, evidently W. H. & E., died 1731, aged 70, was a lead merchant, and the last of these Hodgkinsons. William's daughter Anne was an heiress, and took the estate to her husband, Joseph Banks, the grandfather of Sir Joseph.

As we have no other evidence of a bell cast in the year 1724, and the date on the sixth, 1751, is near enough to the note in Leonard's book to identify this bell, we must conclude, in spite of Titus repeating this information in his MSS. of 1725, that the entries are not correct, invented no doubt to please the Hodgkinson family. In the Titus MSS. of 1725, the above number five bell, was "New cast 1736, by Richard Bower, and John Bacon," these are the Churchwardens at that date.

It has not been possible to trace any bell in the Church, previous to the year 1625, and it is reasonable to suppose that either no bells existed, which may account for the placing of the Sanctus Bell in the bell chamber, or that the bells were very small, and would now be called hand-bells.

A note in Leonard's book informs us:—"4 bells in Ashover Church rehung 1702," and on referring to the Churchwarden accounts of that date:—

† Cum ye Gallants, Look and By.

‡ In 1725, William Hopkinson was one of the Overseers of the Poor.

"Paid to Thomas Siddale for hanging ye Bells ‡ 4. 2. 2½."

We have no doubt that these four bells hung thus until 1890, when in consequence of the very defective state of the bell frame, the six bells were rehung by Messrs. John Taylor & Co., in a new iron frame, which was prepared for a full peal of eight bells, they also recast the above numbers three and six, and added number two.

The ceremony of reopening and dedicating the bells, by the Bishop of Derby, took place on November 8th, 1890, when Mrs. Fenton, wife of the donor of the new bell; Mrs. Dolly Revell, one of the oldest inhabitants, a ringer in her younger days; and Mr. Jackson, senior Churchwarden, struck the bells.

In 1902, the octave was completed by the addition of the "King Edward" bell, and it was necessary to recast number five, to suit the altered key of the peal.

The Tingtang, originally fixed between the mullions of one of the windows of the bell chamber, is the old Sanctus bell, it has no inscription nor date, and is simply ornamented with a cable moulding; it was restored in 1890, to its old original position, a roughly constructed bell-cot, formed of three stones, on the gable of the east end of the nave.

### **The Clerk's Orders—by Leonard Wheatcroft, 1683.**

For all Ringers belonging to him to be observed and taken notice of, and to be diligently read over every Fifth of November, And if there be aney young men that desire to be Ringers, they may then be admitted, and their oaths given them by the Clerke, which orders are as followeth:—

1. Ffirst, you are to be diligent and obedient vunto your Clerke, giving him half a dozen of ale at your entrance.
2. You are to be carefull you doe not foule the Church for displeasing ye Saxtone.
3. You are to observe all the times herafter nominated; that is to say, for the first yeare, you are to help to ring the first and second peales every Sunday or Holy-day at 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning.
4. At 9 o'clock to be ready to ring the sarmon—bell, and chime all in.
5. You are to be carefull and knit up your roapes when you have done, that they be not troden under foot.
6. He that is last sworne is to be the monitor taking notice of all misdemeaners.
7. He that is second sworne is to carry the Keyes when they goe to ring for pleasure, and take care that all be made sure.
8. He that is third sworne is to turn the rope when a bell is thrown over.
9. He that is fourth sworne is to fetch all things necessary as fire and candells.

‡ This was only a part payment of the total cost of £50.

10. He that is fifth sworne is to observe the Boyes and Girles that they doe no mischeefe in the Church, nor amongst the bells or roapes.
11. You are to observe all the foregoing orders before mentioned, and to avoyde all quarreling in the Church or Churchyard whatsoever.
12. He that sweares aney oath in the Church, must and shall pay his two pence to the poore man's box or else forfeit his part of Ringing money for one month next ensuing.

You noble ringers that at Randon run  
 Observe your orders, and your forfits shun.  
 If here you enter, and intend to ring  
 Be sure you do observe here everything.  
 First doff your gloves, your spurs and hat,  
 Else twopence due to th' clerke for that.  
 Next, be you wise, and strive not to excell ;  
 There's twopence due if you throw o'er a bell.  
 Also in setting, if you miss, then I  
 Will have one farthing, if I do stand by.  
 When you ring changes, for each fault you make,  
 One farthing more you shall unto the stake.  
 Again I say, he that doth break a rope or wheel  
 Shall pay his stake, and I will mend it well.  
 And if he will by force enter my steeple  
 He shall be lasht in sight of all the people.  
 And if you leave your ropes upon the ground,  
 Or wet or dirt on them, you shall be bound.  
 If in the Church you do Tobacko take,  
 You shall for every pipe, one penny stake :  
 It is against the Commons of this nation ;  
 Besides, it is a very vgly fashion.  
 If any in our company sit down  
 He shall pay part, or else I'll call him 'clown' ;  
 Tis all our mindes to give him one glass  
 To which he's welcome, and so let him pass.  
 Each Monday night, I'd have the' old ringers ring,  
 And every Thursday, the young ones have their swing.  
 There's one thing more you Ringers must remember  
 That to our landlord, yes, we must be kinder ;  
 That's when we've money given us for ringing  
 They may have parts by turns else needs have flinging.  
 Three, and a shot-pot <sup>†</sup> is our due to have ;  
 He that saith' no', the rest will call him knave.  
 Be all agreed ;—assent and consent granting,  
 And on my part, there shall be nothing wanting.  
 And to conclude.—I wish you strength—And hope  
 A store of money ; but, beware the rope.

<sup>†</sup> Shot, in Yorkshire Dialect means free. Titus describes the Church Tower as Broach-Tower, which, from the same source, means Spire-Tower.

## From the Vestry Meetings:—

1702. July. Samuel Wheatcroft, was instructed by the Churchwardens, to begin to ring Curfew for the future, yearly from Michaelmas to Lady Day, and be paid 10/- extra than has been paid formerly for ringing the said bell.

1707. Churchwardens, for the future, shall not give more than 5/- to ringers on November 5th, and not above 2/6 for any day of Thanksgiving appointed by Her Majesty. (Queen Anne.)

1811. Jan. In future, no money be paid for ringing on 5th. those days, which has been customary for some years past, in case of any good news, the Churchwardens, for the time being, shall have the power of allowing what they think proper and reasonable.

## From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1760.	Candles and ringing money 5s. King's Crownnation. (George III.)	
1772.	Candles 7d. ringing money 5s. King's Crownnation	
Nov. 5th.	2s. 6d. Christmas Day, 2s. 6d. New Year's Day, 2s. 6d. May 29th, 2s. 6d.	
1773.	New Bell ropes and oil ... ...	£1 1s. 8d.
June 30th.		
1774.	Ringmoney for all ye days in ye year	17s. 6d.
1788.	A set of Bell ropes, with TingTang Sept. 12th. rope 23s. putting up 18d. ... ...	£1 4s. 6d.
1792.	Geo. Allen, for ale by Ringers 2 July 12th, New Year's Days, ... ...	5s.
1798.	Paid the Ringeres upon Nelson Oct. 12th Victorey ... ... ...	3s. 6d.
1798. Nov.	To the Publeck ringing ... ...	£5 2s. 3d.
1814.	To Geo. Bamford, and assistantes to June 17th. Gett the Bell drawne up ... ...	5s.
	Paid Mathew Bower for Assisting ...	1s. 6d.
1815.	Ale at John Marsden at Pulleng up Aprell 16th. the Bell ... ... ...	4s. 6d.
1815.	Paid to John Wight For hanging bell £2 14s. 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. May 4th.	
1816.	Paid Mr. Smith For repares of a Bell Exmus. that wass Brok when ringing for Good Newes, ... ... ...	£25 13s. 9d.
1820.	A Dumb peal on the late King's Feb. 1st. Death (George III.), ... ...	5s.
1820.	Gave the Ringers at Queen's rejoicing, Dec. 4th. Gave the Ringers for Oldyears Evening,	2s. 6d 4s.

1821.	Gave Ringers at the King's Coro-		
July 19th.	nation, (George IV.), ... ... ...		£1.
1827.	Ringing Mourning peal for late Duke		
Jan. 2nd.	of York 5s., ditto Minute toll 4s.,		
	ditto ale 2s. 4d. ... ... ...	11s. 4d.	
1830.	Tolling Bell and Ringing at King's		
July 19th.	Funeral (George IV.). ... ...		10s.
1831.	Ringers at Coronation (Queen		
Sept. 8th.	Victoria) ... ... ...		£1.

From entries in these accounts, we learn that a new set of ropes was purchased every year, and that the sum of 1/6 "for putting up" was spent in ale at John Marsdens (Red Lion Inn), or other Tavern in the village.

The yearly salary of 17/6 for the ringers was increased to £5 in 1827, but in 1831, the salary is given as £2 10s. 0d., at which figure it remained until 1864, being 10/- each for five ringers.

Titus, in his Memorandum of 1722, informs us:—

"on the Day that ye Corps is to be buried, ye Clerk is to Ring ye Passing Bell, which is usually about 6 or 7 a Clock in ye morning of ye same Day; he shall for a Man, give every bell 3 touls, and for a woman, he shall give every bell 2 touls, and then ring the fourth bell for half an hour, and when it is ceased, give the bell 2 or 3 Knowles (as before Directed.)"

This Passing Bell is still rung as soon as convenient after notice of a death in the parish, by giving three knolls, three times, or two knolls twice, followed by a Minute bell on the seventh. The eighth bell is not used for the Minute bell because of its weight, which makes it difficult to handle. Some of the inhabitants still remember the peal rung for the Morning Service at 10-30, two bells for the afternoon Service at 2-30, and the Dinner Bell at 12 o'clock every day, with the exception of Pancake Day, when it was rung at eleven.

On Sunday, a bell was rung at 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. to set watches and clocks by, and to inform the people that the usual Church Services would be held. The Dinner and Sunday morning bells were stopped when the new striking clock was installed.

## The Windows.

It is probable that the Church at one time was unsurpassed by any other in the County for the beauty and interest of its painted glass windows. The removal and defacing of Images, ordered by Edward VI., in 1548, was interpreted to include the destruction of figures of Saints in the windows, and the visit of the Roundheads, in 1646, completed the work.

From various Visitations up to 1710, we know of the existence of the following:—

South window of Babington Chantry, heraldic glass, in

commemoration of Sir Anthony Babington's first marriage with Elizabeth Ormond.

South Aisle, but window outside Babington Chantry, heraldic glass, commemorating Sir Anthony's second marriage.

The Clerestory \* windows must have all been treated as memorials, as in 1710, in one of them were the words, "George Leeche . . . . . Babynthon . . . . . wife," and in another the names and escutcheons of Philip Okeover, or his wife Elizabeth Babington. And on the North side, a clerestory window with the arms of Rolleston, Winfield, and Turvile families. The East window of the North aisle in the Reresby Chantry, heraldic glass, in commemoration of the Reresby, Gotham, and Rolleton families.

According to Bassano, the East window of the Chancel, in 1710, still contained a portion of a Latin inscription ; translated read :—

" Brian Roos,† rector of this place, caused this new fabric to be built."

The use of the word "fabric" indicates that more than the window may have been built, perhaps the Chancel, or the East end of the Chancel, was reconstructed at that date, as the East window would be the most likely position in which to place a record.

Brian Roos, was one of the sons of Robert Roos, of Igmanthorpe, near Harrogate, Esquire. He was ordained Acolyte at York, December 17th, 1491, sub-deacon March 17th, 1492. On December 18th, 1498, he was Instituted to the Rectory of Kirk Dighton, and from his will, which was proved October 9th, 1529, he appears to have been Rector of Ashover, and Parson of Childrey, Berks., where a brass plate records :—

" Of your charitie pray for the soule of Bryan Roos, doctor of law, sumtyme parson of this church ; the whych deceased the 30th day of August, the yer of our Lord God 1529 ; on whose soule Jhesu have mercy. Amen."

A portion of his will ‡ reads :—

" to Sir Robert Townrowe, my depute at Ashouer, six pounds and four pence, for his Kynde labours taken for me there, and he not to stande countable for any thinge that he doth or hath occupied for me or of myn further then his worde. I bequeth also to the said Sir Robert the newe fether bedde I lye upon, bolster, bolowes, courledds, and coueryng, with all

\* Clerestory—above the arches.

† Between 1380 and 1460, several generations of the family of Roos held a park in Pleasley called Warsop-wood.

‡ The executors were Christopher Blackwall, John Cryche, John Northych, John Barker, and Henry Colley, but administration was granted to his brother Christopher.

my bokes at Ashouer. To my suster, Anne Bakam, all the vessell in the Kechyn, brasse and pewter. To euery god-child I have in the parishe of Ashouer 20 pence. To Philip Cryche 26 shillings and 9 pence. The residue of all my goodes unbequest I will be devided in two parts, the oon part to be egally divided amongst 11 of the most pourest householders in the parish of Ashouer, the other parte to be bestowed upon the church neds, and the wayes about Ashouer."

Sir Thomas Townrowe, would most probably not be a Knight, but a Curate in Charge.

The Rev. Immanuel Bourne, in 1646, relates:—

"but some of the pyoneers seeing the stayned windows once belonging to the Reresbys, on which were painted the Crucifixion, they said it was rank Popery and must be destroyed; soe they brought their mattocks and bars, and not only destroyed the glass, but the stone work also."

Titus in 1722, states:—

"In which churchwalls are 24 beautiful windows, which in antient time were all beautiful with several pictures, and rich coate of Arms, which belonged to several persons of quality, which formerally were dwellers in ye same parish."

The stained glass windows now in the Church are:—

1. Chancel East. "Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings has thou ordained strength. Presented by Joseph Nodder, rector, and Mary Anne, his wife, as a Thanksgiving to God, who on the 21st day of February, 1857, in perils of robbers, saved the lives of their family by a great deliverance." <sup>†</sup>

Chancel, Memorial Windows:—

2. William Moon, 1867.  
3. Thomas Colmore, 1870, Mary Anne, his sister, 1874.  
4. Jane Nodder, 1844, Joseph Nodder, Rector, 1878, Jemima Nodder, 1874.

South Aisle, Memorial Windows:—

5. John Thomson, 1890, Harriet, his wife, 1866.  
6. John Lee, 1915.  
7. Richard Gregory, 1846, Ann, 1872.

Tower:—

8. "Mine eyes have seen thy salvation." Presented by Miss Nodder, in Memory of her Father, 1891.

## Chancel Brasses.

On the floor within the Communion Rails are two  
Brasses:—

On the North side, a figure of a priest is all that is now left, but the slab bears traces of a lengthy inscription, as well

<sup>†</sup> Attempted burglary at Marsh Green, when Mr. Nodder fired at and wounded Thomas Woottton, alias "Shogg," a well known Birmingham thief.

as other emblems on each side of and above the head. Bassano in 1710, states, "ye stone hath beene laid round with brass, but ye greatest part of it is rent off; on what remains is inscribed." The inscription is in Latin, translated reads:—

"Here lies Phillip Eyre, Rector, and son of Robert Eyre, who died 10th January . . . ."

The shield on the right hand bore the arms of the Eyre family, and that to the left, those of the Padley family, between which, was a chalice with the letters I.H.S. upon a globe issuing out of it.

Philip Eyre was Rector of Ashover, 1471-1504; he was the fifth son of Robert Eyre, of Padley, and Joan, the heiress of the family of Padley.

On the South side a well preserved brass to the memory of James Rolleston, of Lea, and his wife Anna, who was sister to Thomas Babington of the Tomb. The centre of the stone is occupied with brass effigies of the Knight and his Lady, whilst below are representations of their nine daughters and four sons. Of these, pedigrees furnish the names of the four sons, but only one daughter, as follows:—

1. Thomas, of Mathefield, married Elizabeth Turvile, of Newhall.
2. Ralph, married Mary Bingham.
3. Henry.
4. William, "clericus."
1. Matilda, married Ralph Blackwell.

At the four corners are matrices where escutcheons were originally placed, but these have all disappeared. The inscription is in Latin, translated reads:—

"Here lies James Rolleston, of Ley, Esquire, and Anna, his wife, daughter of John Babington, of Dethick, Esquire, which James Rolleston died . . . day of the month . . . of the year of our Lord 15.. and Anna died 15th day of February, 1507."

The spaces left for the day, month, and year of the death of James Rolleston, have not been filled in, and the date is not known, but he was a witness to the will of Thomas Babington in 1518.

Part of the above inscription has now gone, "Anna uxor ejus, filia Johanniis," and the strip of brass at the foot, which may have had a further inscription, has also disappeared.

The family of Rolleston came from Rolleston, near Tutbury. James, of the brass, the heir of Ralph Wynfield's sister, who had married William Rolleston, whose grandfather, John Rolleston, purchased Lea from the Frechervilles, held the Old Hall Manor <sup>‡</sup> of Ashover. This branch of the family became extinct at the end of the reign of Elizabeth, and the estates passed to the Pershalls of Horsley.

<sup>‡</sup> Eddlestow, now a farmhouse near the top of the Slack.

This brass was originally in the Reresby Chantry, it was moved to within the Communion rails on February 4th, 1804. and a writer in 1835, says:—

"Within the Chancel, against the eastern wall, north of the Communion rails, is a large slab of Derbyshire marble, about six feet high; upon it are the brass effigies of a Knight and his Lady, in trick, in excellent preservation; the margin of the slab is bevelled off; on the three upper sides, upon a brass fillet is the inscription. At the four corners are cavities for escutcheons, one at each corner, but the pitch or cement alone remains."

This brass was no doubt placed in its present position during the restoration of 1843.

## Monuments or Tablets now in the Church.

In the body of the Church, North side:—

1. "To the Memory of David Wall, whose superior Performance on the Bassoon, endeared him to an extensive musical acquaintance: His social life closed on the 4. of December, 1796, in his 57 year."
2. William Milnes, Stubbin Edge Hall, Ashover, Born July 18th, 1785, died May 8th, 1866, and eight of the family.
3. William Milnes, died December 24th, 1781, aged 60 years, and three of the family.
4. John and Lydia Twigge, late of Bonsall, and two of the family.
5. Elizabeth Colmore, died May 28th, 1837, aged 70.
6. "John Milnes, a man of business, and in all cases an advocate for a plan; he was born and lived at the Butts, where he died a bachelor. June 24th, 1838: aged 78 years.

"N.B. T'was said he was an honest man."

The local story of John being a solicitor, and inserting legacies to himself, in wills of his clients who could not read, is not correct. John and his brother William, were Lead Merchants, they worked together the Westedge mine in Ashover. When the vein was lost in 1805, the brothers differed in opinion as to the best course to pursue, and perhaps John was an advocate for numerous plans to find the lost vein.

Over the arches, North side:—

7. "Guilielm Dakeyn. Norroy. Pater Richard. nat Harting. Sepult London obit 1530. October 19th." Here the stone is divided. "Stubbin Edge: Richard, 1581, aged 81: Arthur, 1632, aged 59: Henry, 1671, aged 57: Arthur, 1720, aged 77."

Norroy, or King of the North, was the title of the third King at Arms of the Heralds College. In 1597, William Dakeyn, was apprehended by warrant from the Earl of Essex, on December 31st, for issuing false pedigrees, and grants of

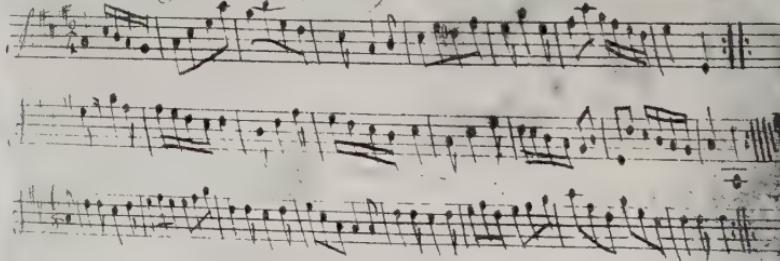
London  
647.

East Malling, 17.11.1870.



ASHOVER CHURCH in DERBYSHIRE, S.E.

*The Church Bells*



... moving right hand round and cast off one. Cut the left hand  
right again (or vice and turn the right and left feet it  
... the last, when turn it and take it.

DAVID WALL'S BASOON MUSIC.

From his book dated 1775.

Arms, he had previously lost an ear for this offence, but this time was let of with a fine. A confession of his forgeries is still preserved at the College of Arms. The top portion of this tablet is evidently not correct, and was no doubt put up to help William to sell his forgeries. Before the plaster was removed a portion of a Crest, no doubt, "A dexter arm embowed, issuing out of a naval crown," was over this tablet. The motto of the Dakeyn family is:—"Stryke Dakyns, the Devils in the hempe."

8. Mary, wife of Rev. James Mills, died July 17th, 1793, aged 27. The Rev. J. Mills was the Curate in Charge at Ashover, he succeeded the Rev. Jas. Bain, in 1789.

In the Babington Chantry:—

9. William Boden, died May 22nd, 1797, aged 59 years, also his daughter.
10. Thomas Babington, brass fixed to a stone of Ashover Marble. See page 8.

On the South wall:—

11. In Italian style, consisting of a shield, surmounted by a medallion portrait. On either side a cherub, one with finger in his eye, as though weeping, the other holding a paint brush. "Francis Parkes, He by his Natural Genius and great Industry Became a Wonderful Proficient in ye Politer Art of Painting. His singular Modesty, Sweet Disposition, Strict Sobriety and Ingeneous Conversation joined with Unusual Diligence and uncommon Skill in his Profession, made him well esteemed by ye best Judges, and rendered him acceptable wherever he was employed. He was born at Knott Cross in this parish. Died at Nottingham, November 29th, the 39th year of his age, 1713. By his own Orders his Remains were deposited in this Church; and by the care of his executors, this Monument was erected to his Memory."

Titus MSS. 1722, states:—

"there is another Monument set up by the Bell-house Door, belonging to one Francis Parks." which indicates that this monument was on the west wall, and has since been moved to its present position.

In the Chancel, North side:—

12. John Nodder, of Marsh Green, died November 20th, 1809, aged 63 years, and eight of the family.
13. Rebecca, wife of Obadiah Bourne, died August 31st, 1754, aged 62, and Obadiah Bourne, died October 6th, 1763, aged 80.
14. "William Hodgkinson, of Overton, in this parish, esquire. He was bred a merchant, and added considerably to his parental estate by his industry and frugality, virtues which he practised himself and greatly encouraged in others. His whole estate. improved with an honest and

fair character, he left to Mr. William Banks Hodgkinson, second son of his only daughter Ann, (whom he survived) by Joseph Banks, of Revesby Abbey, in the County of Lincoln, esquire who, in gratitude erected this monument to his memory. He died 6th December, 1731, aged 70."

Within the Communion rails:—

15. (In Latin) Obadiah Bourne, A.M. Rector, died January 19th, 1711, aged 81, and his wife Elizabeth, died April 11th, 1710, aged 64 years.
16. Jemima Bourne, wife of Immanuel, died June 19th, 1679, aged 73 years, Isaac, Elizabeth, and Jane, her children, and four of the family of Bourne.
17. Immanuel Bourne, Rector, died December 27th, 1672.
18. Philip Eyre, Rector, died January 10th, 1504. (Brass)
19. James Rolleston, of Lea, and wife Anna. (Brass)

Flags in front of Communion rails:—

20. Frances, wife of Adam Crich, who died January 6th, 1719, aged 60.
21. Cornelius Crich, late of Ashover, who died 23rd March, 1789, aged 102.

At the centenary rejoicings in 1788, celebrated with great splendour at Whittington and Chesterfield, in commemoration of the Revolution, Cornelius was carried in a chair in the procession, as being the only person who had been born before the date of the historical meeting at the "Cock & Magpie" now known as the "Revolution House."

There are other flags with inscriptions, under the Choir seats but owing to the boards which cover them, they cannot be read.

The four painted Zinc Tablets on the West end wall, were purchased from Sheffield, in or about 1868, and were removed from the East wall in 1903, when the oak panelling was erected.

## Rood Screen and Loft.

The Rood Screen which separates the Nave from the Chancel, is a perfect and beautiful specimen of the carved woodwork of the Perpendicular style. It is said to have been erected by Thomas Babington in 1511. Over the doorway of the screen is a shield facing west, with the Arms of Babington and Fitzherbert, and on the other side a shield with the Arms of Babington and another which has not been identified. These shields were formerly over the two doors of the Babington Chantry, and were removed when the Chantry screenwork was done away with, to one of the pillars, where they remained till 1843, when they were placed on the Rood screen, and several funeral garlands consisting of wreaths of white artificial flowers suspended from the loft were removed. This custom of carrying garlands before the corpses of un-

married females, which garlands were afterwards suspended in the Church, lasted longer in Derbyshire than in any other part of the country. The Rood-loft was a gallery over the passage from the Nave to the Chancel. The Holyrood, from the Saxon, signifies a cross, it was an image of Christ upon the Cross, made generally of wood, and placed or hung from this loft. The Nave represented the Church militant, and the Chancel the Church triumphant, and those that passed from one to the other must go under the Cross and suffer affliction. The Loft was taken down during the restoration of 1843, as it was in a very dangerous condition, but the one at Wingerworth Church can still be seen.

## The Pulpit.

According to Titus, the Pulpit <sup>†</sup> was rebuilt in 1712, and stood hard by the Dakeyn monument, that is, on the North side of the Chancel arch.

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1703.	Pd. Jos. Wostemholme for work done at ye pulpit	...	...	...	...	7s. 0d.
1820.	John Bunting, for covering Pulpit &c., when the late King died	...	...	...	...	3s. 6d.

The Pulpit was evidently moved at one of the restorations to the South side, where it remained until 1890. <sup>‡</sup> and about that date was again moved to its present position on the North side.

## The Gallery.

Titus informs us:—

"There is likewise in our Church a good and beautiful Loft supported by six wooden pillars and four of stone, with 11 seats, of which four of the uppermost belong to the singers, and the other seven for the inhabitants of ye parish. This Loft is much about the square of eight yards long, and eight yards broad or deep the seats being all made of good fir deal."

This Gallery was erected, according to Titus, in 1722, but evidently considerable alterations were made in 1762, as according to a document dated September 23rd of that year, seats were allotted as follows:—

"New Loft cast Lots for and bought by Auction as under:—

Front Seat on the Right hand side is bought  
by Charles Allsop and Geo. Wright for     ...   £5 12s. 6d.

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<sup>†</sup> Pulpits were not ordered as part of the Church furniture until 1603, although some existed before that date.

<sup>‡</sup> A plan of the Church dated 1824, giving details of proposed re-pewning, shews the Pulpit, Reading Desk, and Clerk's Pew, as a three decker on the South side of the Chancel arch.



THE FONT, Ashover.

Front Seat on the Left hand side is bought by Thomas Bower and Edmund Hodgkinson for	...      ...      ...      ...	£3 10s. 0d.
Second Seat on Left hand side is bought by Francis Wharton for	...      ...	£2 2s. 6d.
Second Seat on Right hand side by Lot falls to Robert Wall and Titus Wheatercroft	...	£2 17s. 6d.
Third Seat on Right hand side by Lot falls to Rich'd Towndrow and Joseph Cantrill	...	£2 7s. 6d.
Fourth Seat on Right hand side by Lot falls to George Allen and Wm. Williamot	...	£1 5s. 0d.
Fifth Seat on Right hand side by Lot falls to Arthur and James Riggott	...      ...	£1 10s. 0d.
Vacancy on left hand sold to Fran's Wharton for	...      ...      ...	9s. 0d.

These alterations seem to have involved other work as we are informed that the sum of £1 7s. 2d. was spent on making a window, and that three pews, no doubt additional, containing 18 sittings in the "back part of the Church," were allotted as follows:—

"The front seat to Charles Allsop, George Wright, James and Arthur Riggott, George Allen and William Willmot, each one sitting. The middle seat to Mr. Kemp two, Mr. Hodgkinson for Edward Hopkinson's House two, and Mr. Twigg's Extors. for Jos'h Bollington's House two. The back seat to Robert Wall, Titus Wheatercroft, Richard Towndrow, Jos. Cantrill, Edmund Hodgkinson and Thos. Bower, each one sitting, first come first served in the above seats."

The Faculty † of 1843 gives permission to stop up the entrance to the Gallery from the outside of the Church, and erect a staircase leading thereto in the interior of the Church. We have no doubt that this outside entrance was through what is now known as the "Gregory Window" and that this window was first made when this outside entrance was removed. During the Restoration of 1843-4, the Gallery was rebuilt, and in 1886 pulled down.

## The Font.

The stone base is modern, 1886, the upper part, of stone covered with lead, ornamented with twenty upright figures of men, moulded in pairs, is considered to be late Norman, about 1150. This Font has attracted considerable attention as only twenty one lead fonts can be found in England. Originally placed at the West end of the North aisle, close against the wall, it was moved to its present position in 1886.

† Faculty—Permission of the Bishop's Ecclesiastical Court, for alterations to be made in the Church.

## The Royal Arms.

The Royal Arms which hangs over the Chancel arch, inscribed:—"Mr. Wm. Milnes, and Mr. John Twigg, Churchwardens, 1793." was purchased from Mr. Gamble in that year for the sum of £13 2s. 0d.

The placing of Royal Arms in Churches commenced in the reign of Henry VIII. after the Reformation as an outward sign that the King was head of the Church and "Defender of the Faith." Many were erected in the reign of Elizabeth, but when the Monarchy was re-established with the accession of Charles II. in 1660, the erection of Royal Arms in Churches became for the first time compulsory. Very few of the older Arms are now in existence, as they were most likely changed or repainted,<sup>†</sup> when the House of Hanover followed the Stuarts.

## The Lectern.

The Lectern was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Jessop, of Overton Hall, on Trinity Sunday, 1887.

## Heating and Lighting.

The first entry in the Churchwarden account for coal is 1810, and in 1818 a stove was set up which cost £9 7s. 0d. The Rector purchased another stove in 1844, and before the hot water pipes were installed in 1886, three stoves were in the Church, one under the Gallery, one in the North aisle, and the third by the Vestry door.

The first entry for oil for lamps is in 1875, and up to that date candles were used:—

"1820—George III. died—Lawrence Short preached the sermon, it took seven pounds of candles to light the Church."

## The Clock.

The first record of the clock is in 1722:—

"There is likewise a pendal clock with two hands, the one to show the congregation the time of the day as they sit within ye church, and the other is on the outside ye wall to show the people what time of ye day as ye pass along ye street."

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1784.	Paid Mr. Mason for the Clock ...	... £10 12s. 6d.
1792.	New Clock coard ...	... ... 6s. 0d.
1806.	Mr. Mason mending Clock ...	... £1 4s. 0d.

<sup>†</sup> At North Walsham, Co. Norfolk, the Royal Arms of Charles II.. dated 1660, are painted on one side, and on the back the Arms of the Commonwealth.

1810. Wm. Wheatcroft repairing Clock	7s. 0d.
1837. Sam Wheatcroft repairing Clock	16s. 6d.

The present clock was installed by Messrs. John Smith & Sons, of Derby, in 1881 as a Ding Dong Quarter Clock, which they altered to Westminster Chimes in 1890.

## Sundial.

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1780. June 25th. To William Wheatcroft for painting and figuring the Sun Dial	10s. 0d.
1823. September 6th. Geo. Bamford, for taking down Sundial cleaning, 2 days 3/6	7s. 0d.
John Bassett by Bill	£1 0s. 0d.

The date of 1823 on the Sundial, is the date when it was taken down and repainted.

## Churchyard.

The stone font in the Churchyard, was found being used for a pig trough at Brackenfield, purchased for 5s., and is believed to be the old font from Morton Church.

The stone coffin at the West end of the tower, in which Leonard Wheatcroft was buried, was undoubtedly, made about the year 1200.

The large Lime Trees are marked I.W. 1778.

The present side gate which leads to the Chancel door was erected in 1837; when the "Old Road" from the South Porch and the gate, at which were five steps projecting two yards into the road (Church Lane), were removed.

William Hodgkinson, of Overton, who was buried December 9th, 1731, aged 70, designed, according to Titus, the following epitaph to be written on his gravestone:—

"Farewell vain world, I know enough of thee,  
And now am careless, what though sayest of me,  
Thy smiles I court not, nor thy frowns I fear,  
My cares are past, my head lies quiet here."

but there is no record of this having been carried out.

A modified form of this verse appears on the table tomb of Thomas Nightingale, who died January 19th, 1734, aged 69.

On the South side of the lower gate, the following epitaph can be read:—

Rebecca Allen, 1826, age 27.

"Farewel affliction Grief and Pain,  
Welcome eternal Bliss,  
Thank God I ne'er shall live again,  
In such a World as this."

By the North door:—Mary, who died August, 1843, is described as "relict" of Benjamin Brown, who died in 1851.

Mr. J.  
Spreading the soil  
No. 2. S. number  
of leaves on each  
tree.



On the South side of the Church:—  
David Grafton, 1780, age 59.

"Passenger stop and read a line,  
My life I lost in Gregory Mine.  
So be diligent in Prayer while time you have,  
For their is no repentance in the grave."

Near the top gate:—

"Samuel Farmerley, 1811, whose fidelity in servitude secured him a place for upwards of thirty years in the family of Sir Peter Nightingale."

There never was a Sir Peter.

On the North side of the Church:—

Fanny Brailsford, 1849, age 32.

"She liv'd respected, and died lamented,  
She was, but words are wanting to say what,  
Think what a wife should be, she was that."

Part of this verse can also be found on the stone of Grace Barker, 1811, aged 41.

Eliz. Ann Robinson, 1856.

"By a vallient horse my brother died,  
By fire my life I lost,  
But Christ for us was crucified,  
In him be all our boast."

Others read:—

Job. Beresford, 1812.

"Two Brothers and Two Sisters dear  
Two Husbands and Two Wifes lies here."

Rose Wharton, 1748, age 42.

"Afflictions Sore Long Time i bore  
Physician was in Vain till Death did S . . .  
and God did Pleais to Eais me of my pa in,"

## Church Goods.

From an Inventory in the year 1722.

A great Bible.

A common prayer book.

A Communion cup and cover of silver, and flaggon.

A carpet of green cloth, to cover communion table.

A Table cloth of fine linnen, and a napkin.

Two Cirplis's of good Bagg-holland.

A green cushion for ye pulpit

Two Cushions in ye Reeding desk.

Two Great flaggons for ye Communion.

A Pewter dish, with R and F on it.

Two little boxes to gather Breef moneys \* in.

\* It was the duty of the Churchwardens to collect the Charity Money upon Briefs, which were to be read in Church, and the sums collected to be indorsed on the Briefs, and signed by the Minister and Churchwardens. In 1725, the sum of £1 9s. 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. was collected for Brief money.

A great Book of Martyrs, given by Edward Nuton † of Northidge.

The two chairs within the Communion Rails are dated 1601 and 1607, one of which is said to have been in Eastwood Old Hall.

## The Terrier of 1719.

"The Terrier, is an Inventory of all the Glebe Lands, Tythes, Profits, Rights, Customs, and Premises belonging to the Rectory of Ashover.

There is a large old Parsonage House y consisteth of nine bays ‡ of Building, an old Kitchen and Bakehouse of one bay; A corn barn of six-Bays, with a yard on the south side belonging to it of about half an Acre. Two Hay Barns or houses and Cole-house n'th a Stable adjoining containing seven or eight Bays of Building. Also an Upper and Nether Garden or Orchad and a Court before the house door, and a fold-yard Lying to the Barn of about 2 Acres all.

Also these Gleabe-Lands ffolllining:—

1. One parcel of Land Lying on Ashover-hill-top called the Uptofields, of about 20 Acres, bounded by ye Common on ye North East and South sides.
2. Allso 2 Closes Lying within ye Lands belonging to Hatch-Leas, Lying on the North side of ye River of Amber, Called ye Great and ye Long Westidge of about 6 Acres.
3. and one odd Narrow Land Lying in a piece of Land called the close on ye backside of ye Barn-Close and adjoining unto and butting Westward upon the said Long-Westidge of about halfe an Acre.
4. Allso one Little Close adjoining Southward to ye said Barnclose and butting Northward upon the Westidge Land Called the Westidge Pingle of almost One Acre.
5. Allso one odd Narrow Land Lying North of the said Barn-Close in a piece of ground Now Mr. Gladwins called the Upper Westidge, att ye Westidge Lane-side, butting Southward upon Westidge pingle, and Northward upon ye Westidge Lane.
6. Allso one Close at ye Marshgreen called the Penny Leas of about One Acre Butting eastwards towards Ashover hill and northwards towards Westidge Lane.
7. Allso one Close called ye Milking Close lying on the Southside of Milking Lane of about One Acre.
8. Allso one little pingle Lying after ye Southside of ye Hardmeddow-Lane, called the Parsons-pingle adjoining

† He was party to a Mortgage Deed dated 22nd December, 1643.

‡ Bay—a division or space between two main beams of a house, distance between two roof beams. Wright's Dialect Dictionary.

to the Chappel yards westward to ye Thisley-half Acre of something more than One Rood of Land.

9. Allso one Dole of Land Lying in the Middle of ye said Thisley-half acre of about halfe an Acre.
10. Allso one Close ye Lime-Kiln-holes Lying after the Southside of Hard-meddow Lane of about 3 Acres.
11. Allso 2 Doles of Land lying Southward in a piece of ground thereunto adjoyning Called ye Eldertreeacre ye one Dole lying Southward next Ashover-field and the other Northward adjoyning to the Limekiln-holes, of about 2 Acres.
12. Allso 6 Long Lands lying in a Close at Ashover Town End called the Netherwestlands of near 2 Acres.

Allso there is due and paid to ye Rector of Ashover ye Tythe of all kind of Corn, shaken corn as well as other which the Tythe-man, gets out by every tenth shock or stack and is Load away by the Parsons-men when ye people lead theirs, till then the Parsons servants never lead away any.

But no Tythe Hay is paid in Kind. Every house at Easter when they pay their Easter Dues (or Dutys) paying yearly such a Custom-peney for their Tythe Hay as the best living in ye parish pays but 14 pence per Annum, and some pays but 6 pence and some but 4 pence, some more and some less per Annum.

And by Tradition they tell us that the Neighbourhood are obliged to set up their Tythe-Corn in Shocks, or stacks according to an Antient agreement w'th the parsons as they have done time out of mind in consideration of having their Tythe Hay for so small a Composition.

As all the livings in ye parish do pay Tythe-Corn in Kinde except Dethick which pays 4 marks (viz. £2 13s. 4d.) per annum at Easter and Michaelmas by equal portions Only ye are obliged to pay their offerings at Easter besides ; so Lea Hall Land pays only 8 shillings, and Cockshuts 7 shillings per annum and a side of Mutton yearly at Midsomer, or a whole sheep every 2 years at Midsumer and these latter pay their Easter dues besides.

Allso the Rector hath Tythe Wool and Lamb tythe, Geese, and Piggs, Tythe Hemp and flax, Tythe Eggs, and his Easter Book paid at Easter as the Custom is, these things are paid in this manner :—

The Wooll is paid by weight every 10th pound or stone and sometimes by every 10th fleece. As they pay their Tythe Lambs, they taking two and the Tythe-man ye 3rd next best fleece; in ye wake week at Midsomer when the people in their several Quarters upon their vsual days fetch in their lambs, and have their wooll ready against ye Tythe-man comes according to their custome.

The Lambs are paid thus, if but one lamb they pay but one half peny, if 2 one peney, 3 threehalfpence, if 4 twopence, if 5 then half a lamb, the owner first chusing one and the

tytheman the next best which he sets of a price either to give or take so much money for it, if there be 6 lambs he hath one allowing 2 pence, if 7 he hath one allowing 3 halfpence, if 8 he allows one peney, if 9 one halfpeney if 10 he allows nothing, and the custom is in taking ye tythe lambs when there is a whole lamb due is thus. The owner first takes up 2 and the tythe-man the next best after, which ye owner takes up 7 more and then 2, and then ye tithe-man the next best, and so he takes them if there be never so many more lambs, allowing as before 8 pence always at every 5th odd Lambs tythings as before said; when there are but 5 lambs in all.

If sheep be put out to the halves, when they divide they get out the tythe first, as when they are wintered out ye Lambs are paid when they fall, and half the wooll is paid here at Mid-somer; but if the parishnors sell any sheep, if at Michaelmas ye pay nothing for them. But if ye sell y'm after Michaelmas y'm ye pay one halfpeny an odd shcep, and one peney for every couple sold, but if their couples or Lambs be sold and delivered after St. Barnabas day then they one to be paid for according to their worth in kind. If they sell any sheep or couples to any in the parish, these y'x have y'm possession are to pay tithe for them, if out of ye parish and delivered after St. Barnabas Day y'd who sold y'm and delivered them are to pay whole tythe both of wooll and lamb according to their worth in kind, as above said and so for all they winter, if they buy any sheep at Michaelmas or St. Luke tide and keep them all winter and summer y'm here they are to pay the whole tythe for y'm as other Neighbours doth; If they then buy them at ye spring and only Summer y'm, they pay but halfe wooll. But there lambs are paid for where y'e fall. Geese and Piggs are paid as the tythe lambs are paid. Tythe Eggs of Turkeys, Ducks, and Hens are paid thus, 3 eggs for the Cock and two for the hen and so for every hen, but the people of ye house demand one egg back for the cock to be given to the youngest child.

Hemp and flax are paid by every 10th strickle or bundle.

Geese are gathered before Corn-harvest and hemp etc. after.

The Easter Dutys are thus paid:—

The house 4 pence (except in Lea and Holloway Quarter where they pay but  $3\frac{1}{2}$  for the house) their offering 3 pence for ye man and his wife and 3 halfpence for a widdow or widower, Communion silver one penny; a child or servants offering that receives ye holy sacrament one peney, Hay silver according to the custom of ye house.

Every swarm of Bees y'x lives till Easter pays one peney, and every fole pays one peney. And every Cow y'x hath one Calfe in ye year pays 2 pence; but if she be barren but one peney.

There is 7 pence paid to the Rector att every burial. If a

house Keeper die and have a personal Estate of 40 marks value (£26 13s. 4d.) in Debtless goods and 10/- to be paid within 12 months after his decease to ye Parson as a mortuary \* by their Executors or administrators; and 10 pence to ye Clark if not coffined, but if the corps be coffined then 12 pence; there is 5 pence paid at every Churching to ye Rector and one peney to ye Clerk.

At every Wedding if asked in ye Church 14 pence to ye Rector, and 6 pence to ye Clerk besides 2 pence if he writes ye Bans Note. But if ye be married n'th a Licence then there is 2 shilling and 6 pence paid to ye Rector, and 12 pence to ye Clerk.

The Clarkwages are very poor, but one penny a plow and and one halfpeney a cottage and the best living gives him not above 6 pence as he pleaseth.

Tythe Ore was formally paid both in kind and in several compositions for ye same, but lost after a long suit by the former incumbent, about 70 years ago, so that now it is supposed to be irrecoverable by Law or equity, Other Neighbouring parsons having since lost it, some of y'm after long and very chargable suits, tho the present incumbent pays 20 shillings in his tenths to the King yearly. pro decimis in metallo plumbi.

This is a copy of what was given unto ye Court, September 30th, 1719. written upon parchment.

JOHN FLETCHER, Curate.  
 WM. BOTHAM }  
 JOHN RHODES Jnr. } Churchwardens.

Examined by Capt. WM. HOPKINSON, and  
 WM. HODGKINSON, September 20th, An. 1729.

The payment of Tithe to the Clergy, originated in the recognition of a moral and religious duty, acquired the force of custom, then the sanction of Ecclesiastical Law, and finally passed into the national jurisprudence of England and other Christian countries. A portion of the Glebe Land was exchanged by consent under a Deed dated September 15th, 1726. The Commons Enclosure Acts (Lea 1776, Ashover 1779) made certain additions to the land and the Tithe Commutation Act of 1836, changed the elaborate system of payment of Tithe of or in kind, into a money or Rent Charge, which varies with the septennial average price of Corn. The Tithe at Ashover was commuted under the above Act in 1849, and only about 40 Acres of the of Glebe Lands now remains, the rest having been sold from time to time.

\* The taking of Mortuaries by Rectors, a custom much abused, was considerably restricted by the Act of 1530, and 10/- was the highest sum that could be levied.

## The Communion Plate.

Alms Dish, engraved with the arms of Ferne family of Bonsall, 1711-12.

Paton, engraved, "1581, ASHOVER 1727."

Flagon, engraved, "OVERTON 1727."

All no doubt, presented by William Hodgkinson, of Overton, about 1727, who married Elizabeth Ferne of Bonsall.

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1773.	Wine at Witsuntide	4 Bottles, at Mich.	
	2 Bot. at Christmas	5 and at Easter	9
	20 Bot. ....	....	£1 10s. 0d.
	Taking care of it 4s. Carriage 6d.		4s. 6d.

The charge of 4s. for taking care of it continued until 1785.

## The Parish Register.

The Baptisms date from 1622, with a gap 1623-53; Burials and Marriages from 1653.

In the first volume, the Solemn League and Covenant, dated 1641, is written out and signed by a great number of persons in the parish. Leonard Wheatcroft's family history, occupies nearly a page. A Memorandum dated February 3rd, 1653, states that all marriages are to be brought to Justice Spateman, who lived at Road Nook, Brackenfield, and for some years the Marriage entries are in the following form:—

"Leonard Wheatcroft, Regester for this parrish, and Elizabeth Hawley of winster, spinster, in the parrish of Youlgrave, was published from Octo. 5 till Octo. 19, and nothing was objected against them by aney one but that wee might lawfully proceed to marry, which was performed and done by Justice Spateman, May 20, 1657."

Legal solemnisation of marriage by a civil magistrate alone, was established in 1653 by what is called Barebone's Parliament, the first Legislative Assembly under Oliver Cromwell.

After the Banns were published a certificate was issued, and Leonard's copy on the cover of the first Register reads as follows:—

"To the worshipfull John Spateman, Esquire, or to whomsoever these presents may concerne.

"These are to certifie that the pourpose of Marriage between.....and.....Both of the parrish of Ashouer, and County of Derby, was published 3 severall Lordes Dayes together (at the close of the morning Exercise) in the church of Ashouer from.....to.....and nottinge objected by aney one that they may Lawfully proceed to marriage, as aforesaid in witness here I have subscribed my name."

Entries of age and date of death are first given in January, 1790.

The Transcripts, or copies of the Register, which had to be supplied to the Bishop at Lichfield, date from 1667, and continued to be sent from Ashover until December, 1818.

The Parish Register was instituted by Thomas Cromwell who was appointed Vicar-General in July, 1535, by Henry VIII. The order, dated September, 1538, requires every Parson to enter every Sunday in the presence of the Wardens all Baptisms, Marriages and Burials of the previous week, in a book which was to be kept in a two-locked coffer, under pain of a fine of 3*s.* 4*d.* Bishop's Transcripts were first ordered to be made October, 1597, and the Registration Act of 1812, put an end to these returns.

## Music.

When the Gallery was built in 1722, four of the uppermost pews were reserved for the Singers.

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1774.	Gave ye Singers to by Books	...	...	10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
1776.	pd. to singers	...	...	10 <i>s.</i> 6 <i>d.</i>
1793.	To Joseph Allen for Clarrynet	...	...	18 <i>s.</i> 0 <i>d.</i>

John Bassett, who was born in Ashover, June 2nd, 1789, played the Violincello in the Church before he was 10 years old.

In 1805, the singers' salary was increased to two guineas, and in 1807 the salary is given as three guineas, but in 1811 the Vestry Order reads:—"that no allowance be paid to singers till further orders."

In 1813, Joseph Wall was appointed singing master, at a salary of £5, and Geo. Allen also received a salary of £5, together with an allowance of 2*s.* 6*d.* for Reeds, no doubt for the Clarionet.

In 1821, an Organ which cost £50 was obtained, the carriage, evidently by canal, to Cromford cost 14*/-*, fetching from Cromford 3*/-*, and as usual 3*/8* was spent in Ale on getting the Organ upon the Gallery. This instrument was evidently a Harmonium, as it is later expressed in the accounts as "Larmoniham," and sometimes as "har'm" which got over the difficulty of spelling. It was sold in 1848 for £5.

In 1826, Jos. Wall is paid £2 12*s.* 6*d.* and Emmauel Holmes one guinea for playing the Organ. From 1832, the Singers' salary was £2 10*s.* 0*d.*, at which figure it remained until 1877. In 1866, John Taylor, of the Post Office, played the Harmonium; Joseph Holmes, a shoemaker, who could neither read nor write, and had previously been Landlord of the Black Swan and Crispin Inns, played the Violincello; William Bassett, printer, also the Violincello; Thomas

Hopkinson, a stonemason played the Bass ; Thomas Watts, also a mason, the Clarionet, and Thomas J. Beardow, the Parish Clerk and Singing Master, the Violin. A second Harmonium purchased in 1865, was played by John Taylor, and remained the chief musical instrument until 1883, when the present Organ, built by Abbot's of Leeds, was installed at a cost of £270, Messrs. Evans and Jolley, of Nottingham, being selected as Architects.

## The Rector and Clerk's Fees.

AT A CHRISTENING. When ye woman comes to be Churched she gives 6 pence, five pence to ye Minister and one penny to ye Clerk.

FOR A WEDDING. When ye Banns is written ye pay ye Clerk six pence, and if ye be asked in ye Church and married here they pay two shillings, fourteen pence to ye Minister and ten pence to ye Clerk ; But if ye both come out of another parrish with a Lycense, ye Minister hath five shillings and Clerk one ; but if ye woman belong to our parrish and be married at another Church then ye Minister can only demand two shillings and sixpence, and ye Clerk one shilling ; but if ye man only be of this parrish, and the woman of another, then they pay only where the woman belongs, or where they are married, and not where the man is.

FOR A FUNERAL. When the Corps is buried ye pay ye Clerk nineteen pence if ye Corps be coffin'd. and seventeen pence if ye be wraped in a shroud, whereof ye Minister hath seven pence and ye Clerk the rest. If ye people will have ye Corps chimed to ye Church ye pay it (what ye please) to ye Clerk, but if they will have ye Bells rung, then what they please to give the Ringers Drinks it, whereof all those that are ordained Ringers are free for part of same.

These fees remained in force until about 20 years ago.

## The Restorations. 1798-99.

From a letter now preserved in the British Museum :—

"The chancel of Ashover church is now undergoing some repairs, such as new laying the floor, opening a window which was stopped up, and rebuilding some pews. It will give you pleasure however to be informed, that the grave-stones, painted glass in the windows, and carved Arms of the Reresby's formerly lords of Ashover, on the pew doors will be carefully preserved."

A visitor some years previous to the Restoration of 1843, says :—

"The nave and aisles are heavily pewed with oak, and the names of the proprietors, according to the custom of the country, are carved upon the pew doors."

The Reresby's had their pews in the Chancel, and on one of these were the initials T.R. and M.R. and the Arms of Reresby, Normanville, and Gotham, and above, the crest of a Goat. On another part of the same pew the word "Reresbie."

In the Gent's Magazine of May, 1791, the monuments of the Bourne's in the Chancel are given, amongst which are:—

Marble slab, within altar rails, to Lawrence Bourne, surgeon of Marsh Green; on a slab in the middle of the chancel to George Bourne; on three different marble slabs in the middle of the chancel, (1) to Rebecca. (2) to Rebecca. (3) to Obadiah.

This description seems to indicate some re-arrangement since that date, and the replacing of some of these marble slabs by the two stones now within the Communion Rails.

At a Survey and Inspection made of Ashover Church, February 7th, 1804, by Mr. Wight Watson, of Bakewell, and others, there were then old gravestones to the memory of Rolleston family of Lea Hall, in the parish of Ashover; the Babingtons of Dethick; and the Reresbys of Eastwood.

In 1820, some re-arrangement of the pews was carried out, as the Churchwarden accounts state that, a book was bought to insert the owners names of the Rows and Sittings previous to new sealing, and Geo. Bamford was sent round the parish to inform persons to attend at Church to make claim for their sittings. New seating was under consideration in 1824 as a plan exists shewing a proposed arrangement.

It is said that the old Oak Pews were very high, and that there was no floor within the pews, the pewholders standing on the earth, or on stones or pieces of wood that they had provided for their own convenience.

#### 1843-44.

The Restoration of 1843, commenced on August 1st, by the contract with Job Cowlishaw, who delivered the lowest tender for paving the aisles, re-pewing the nave in stained deal, restoring the Pulpit and Reading Desk, and making benches for 100 scholars. The Plans and Specifications being prepared by Mr. William Stone.

The money to carry out this work was obtained by donations, offertories, and a charge of 15s. each for sittings.

The Rev. Joseph Nodder headed the subscription list with a donation of £50, and six others together gave £19 10s. A morning collection at the Church on October 8th, 1844, added £63 8s. 8½d., an afternoon collection after a sermon by the Rev. Thomas Hill, Vicar of Chesterfield £14 7s. 10½d., and on October 13th, after a sermon by the Rev. Thomas Lund, Rector of Morton £11 11s. to which was added £258 15s. paid for the sittings, making a total of £417 12s. 7d.

In 1844 the restoration of the Chancel Screen and Communion Rails,† the supply of furniture for the Pulpit, Read-

† Communion Rails were first introduced in 1630, by Archbishop Laud.

ing Desk and Communion Table, re-fitting the Vestry, and re-seating of the Chancel was undertaken. Towards which work, the Nodder family subscribed £35, and adding two other subscriptions, and the balance from the previous work, £38 5s. 3d., made a total of £84 5s. 3d.

This work was completed and the Church re-opened by the Bishop of the Diocese on October 8th, 1844.

Cox, in his Churches of Derbyshire, is very severe on this restoration, he states that the Rood-Screen bore a good deal of the original gilding and painting, until it was unfortunately cleansed, the Rood staircase with its two doorways, and the squint barbarously blocked up.

The Rood-screen was evidently in a very bad state, as a man of Cowlishaw's spent six weeks repairing it, so very little, if any, of the original gilding or painting could have been left.

The window in the Organ Chamber is dated 1842.

At this period the Rector purchased and fixed a stove in the Church at a cost of £35 1s. 6d., and restored the roof and pews in the Chancel at a cost of £44 7s. 2d.

Allotment of sittings in Ashover Church after re-pewning February 5th, 1846.

No.	Name	Residence	Seats
3	John White	On Hillside	3
4	Mr. Milnes	Hunt's House and Milltown	3
5-6	Chesterfield Corporation	...	6
7	Sam Mellor	House in Town	3
8	Mr. Nall	Gladwin's Mark Farm	3
9	Thomas Lee	Uppertown	3
10	Mr. Todd	Malthouse Lane Houses	3
11	Tomlinson	Hill House	3
12	„ Milnes	Butts	7
13	„ Thomas Lee	Buntingfield	11
14	„ Hallowes	Dethic Farms	9
15	„ James Berrisford	Kelstedge	2
	„ William Hodgkinson	Press	2
16	„ Coupe	Alton	3
	„ Taylor	Chantry	1
17	Miss Boden	...	3
	Mr. John Beardow	Brockhurst	1
18	„ Francis Bowler	Ashover	4
19	„ Milnes	Dale Cottage	3
20	„ Bower Marriott	Kelstedge	2
	Chesterfield Corporation	...	2
21	Mr. Bollington	Wash House	4
22	Mrs. Ashe	White Horse, Kelstedge	3
22	Mr. Wilson	Brockhurst	1
29	„ Knight	House in Town	6
30	Matt. and Jno. Towndrow	Milltown	6
	Sam Kirk, W. Seagur	Badger Lane	—
31	Dr. Bright	Dianmings	2
	Mr. Nodder	Lant Lodge Farm	4
32	„ Thompson	Hill Side	6
33	„ Milnes	Dale Ho., Milltown, Littlemoor	6
34	„ Battes	High Ashes	4
	„ Nuttall	Hardwick	2

No.	Name	Residence	Seats
35	Mr. John Hole, Jos. Marsden	Slack, Alton	4
	Joseph Taylor	House bottom of Town	2
36	„ Nuttall	Northedge Hall	6
37	„ Dutton	Goss Hall	6
38	Chesterfield Corporation	...	2
	Mr. Nodder	Marsh Cottage	2
39	„ Milnes	Stubbin Edge	13
40	Dr. Bright	Overton	11
41	Sir Henry Hunloke	Northedge House, Sleighs	6
42	Mr. Gregory	Overton House	6
43	„ Taylor	House in Ashover	6
44	„ Colmore	House in Town or Butts	5
45	Mrs. Eaton	Dovecote House	6
46	Mr. Hopkinson	Northedge House	6
47	„ Geo. Smedley	House, Amber Lane, & Brockhurst	5
48	„ John Turner	Alton	2
	„ Geo. Hole	Slack	2
	Chesterfield Corporation	...	2
55	Mr. Lee	Wilkin House servants	2
	„ Hopkinson	Northedge servants	2
56	„ Sharpe	Hillside House	3
57	„ Lee	Wilkin House	4
58	Mrs. Eaton	Dove Cote, servants	4
59	Mr. Milnes	Yew Tree, The Hay, Ravensnest	3
60	„ Jos. Watts	Ashover Moor House	4
61	Miss Boden	Rose Cottage	4
62	Mr. Geo. Holmes	House at Uppertown	3
	Dr. Bright	Green House	2
	Mrs. Goodlad	House in Ashover	1
63	Tho. and Ed. Hodgkinson	House in Ashover	4
	Mrs. Goodlad	House in Ashover	2
64	Mr. Matt. Towndrow	Milltown	4
	„ Colmore	Butts, servants	2
	„ William Swift	House, Spancar	2
65	„ Colmore	Edlestow	5½
	Miss Bamford	House, Ashover	5½
66	Mr. Nuttall	Press	4
	„ Taylor	Delves House	1
67	„ Milnes	House, Town and Milltown	5
68	„ Nodder	Henstone's House	3
69	„ Wm. Rooth	Hodge Lane	2
	„ Thomas Goodall	Hay House	2
	Chesterfield Corporation	...	1
70	Mrs. Knight	Hall Moor House	4
	Mr. Nodder	Marsh Green	1
71	„ James Milnes	House, Amber Lane	5
72	Chesterfield Corporation	...	3
	Mr. Daniel Watts	House in Rattle	2
73	„ Milnes	Littlemoor, Berridge Lane, Spancar	5
78	Churching Pew	See page 45...	7

## In the Gallery.

1	Mr. Milnes	...	Stubbin Edge, servants	6
2	„ Nodder	...	Marsh Green, servants	6
3	Dr. Bright	...	Overton Hall, servants	6
4	Mr. Bassett	...	House, Hillside	2
	„ Gregory	...	House, Rattle	2
	„ Nodder	...	Henstone Cottage	2
5	„ Jos. Eaton	...	House, Brockhurst	2
	„ Milnes	...	...	4
6	„ Nodder	...	Marsh Green, servants	6

No.	Name.	Residence.	Seats
7	Mr. Thompson ...	... Littleworth Cottage ...	... 2
	„ Jos. Rooth ...	... House, Hardmeadow Land	... 2
	Allotted in the Body	...	305
	Free in the Nave	...	95
	Seats for boys under Gallery	...	100
	Allotted in Gallery	...	40
	Free ...	...	23
	Seats for Girls in North Aisle and Chancel		150
		Total	713

The allotment, and payment of 15/- per seat, did not convey any legal ownership of the sittings or pews.

### 1886.

During the Restoration of 1886, the walls and pillars were stripped of their plastering, which brought to light several interesting remains. An old Squint on the South side of the Chancel Arch was re-opened, revealing portions of two ancient memorials. The sides of this Squint are formed of roughish pieces of free-stone, on one of which is a well defined Chalice incised without any accompaniment, date about 1400. The other fragment forms part of the covering of the opening within the wall, and consists of an oblique section of an incised slab of the 13th century. This is rather an unusual specimen as the sword at least is formed of a white composition filling up the previous prepared cavity.

At the West window of the North aisle, forming the upper portion of the jambs, are two portions of another slab, one has the steps of a cross, and the other apparently the stem, date 13th century. At the South window of the Chancel, adjoining the Chancel Arch, forming the inner sill, an incised cross, (the head of which is almost erased evidently by wear) with a hatchet on its right and sword on its left, date about 1150.

The lintel of the door leading to the Vestry is formed of an incised stone, and there are others:—South window Bell chamber; Sill of Clerestory window, North aisle, East corner; and outside Vestry.

The plastered walls had been adorned with paintings chiefly executed in shades of red and yellow, but they appear to have been so carefully erased at the Reformation, that no subject could be distinguished. The South wall of the Nave seems to have been plaques with coloured grounds running longitudinally beneath the Clerestory windows, each being inscribed with texts in black letter, and festooned underneath with a green border. The inscriptions could not be deciphered, but from the character of the letters they appear to have been painted about the time of Edward VI. (1550).

The following inscription was on the plaster of the North Clerestory wall before it was effaced in October 1886:—

Churchwardens, Ashover.

Charles Bower and William Hodgkinson, built the Pulpit 1712.

Wm. Hodgkinson, Gent. and John Hilton, built Church-yard walls 1713.

Giles Cowley and John Nodder, Senr.,\* plastered and pointed ye church and rebuilt vestry 1714.

Joseph Hodgkinson and James Milnes rebuilt 7ft. of ye steeple which was blown down 1715.

William Botham and John Rhodes Junr., gilded and painted the screen in 1719.

Both doorways of the Rood staircase and the Tower arch were disclosed, the Gallery removed, the North door opened out, the Heating apparatus re-organised, and the Organ installed.

The sum spent was £630 11s. 0d., of which £333 15s. 8d. came from subscriptions, £100 by Offertories, and the remainder from the proceeds of entertainments, etc.

The Church was reopened Friday, October 29th, 1886, at 3 o'clock, the Choir appearing for the first time in surplices, preceded the Clergy and Archdeacon of Derby.

The Harvest Festival on the following Sunday had a larger congregation than had been known in the memory of that generation.

## The Churching Pew.

Memorandum, that on the 8th day of May, 1676, it was agreed upon by and between John Gregory and John Bunting of the one part, and the parishioners of the parish of Ashover on the other part, that the said John Gregory and John Bunting being at the cost of seiling of the forepart of a seat in ye church of Ashover, now John Bunting's which shall be for the use of the churching wifes of the parish of Ashover for ever in lieu whereof he the said John Bunting is to have liberty to seile in the East corner in Babington's Quire for his own use, and service for ever. That the said John Gregory his seat shall be the seat wherein his wife now usually sits in from and after the seiling of the above seat for the use of the churching wifes as aforesaid be free from the trouble of the churching wifes hereafter always provided that Elizabeth the mother of the said John Bunting or her daughters shall have liberty to sit in one part of the said seat to be seiled in for the churching wifes during the life of the

\* John Nodder, Senr., born 1687, died 1739, lived at Sheffield, he is not given as one of the Churchwardens for 1714, but probably contributed to the cost.

said Elizabeth and that from and after the death of the said Elizabeth the said seat so sealed out as is agreed upon shall be and remain to the sole use and service of the parish of Ashover for the Churching wives for ever.

OBADIA BOURNE, Ecclesia. Rector.

JOHN BUNTING      }  
EDWARD HENSTOCK } Churchwardens.

"H" his mark.

## Old Customs.

In the nature of things, it needs must be, that a multitude of customs often quaint and curious will be found in connection with every society of great antiquity, but beyond all, it is to be expected that a wealth of folk-lore and legend should grow up around that divinely constituted society, the Church.

The profound veneration for the Church herself, and for all things consecrated to her service, appears at first to be antagonistic to the custom of holding Wakes and Markets within the Churchyards, allowing mountebanks to climb the steeples, and the performance of plays in consecrated buildings.

But in those days the Church entered so fully into the lives of the people, and these customs originated with some festival of the Parish Church which had become corrupted.

Unfortunately, records have not been found, that are old enough to give us evidence of several of these customs being held at Ashover, but there is no reason to suppose that this village differed from other parishes.

The Feast, or Fair, began with the observance of the dedication festival of the Church; each trade began its yearly feast by attendance at Mass, and in many cases maintained its own Altar in the Church, and paid for its own Chaplain. One of the most joyous days in the year, was the one on which the whole parish helped to gather rushes, heather, or bracken, to strew the Church floor.

A Statute made in the reign of Edward I. 1285, ordered, "that from henceforth neither fairs nor markets be held in churchyards, for the honour of the Church." Records show, that the traders at Cockermouth, Cumberland, complained in 1305, that their market was declining, on account of the sale of corn, flour, beans, flesh, fish, and other kinds of merchandise at Crosthwaite Church on Sundays. A meat market was held at Wigtown, Cumberland, on Sunday, the butchers suspending carcases of meat at the Church door to attract the attention of those attending divine service, and it was not uncommon for people who had made their bargain before the service, to hang their joints over the backs of the seats until the ceremony was concluded.

A Statute made in the reign of Henry VI. 1409, ordered, "He that playeth at unlawful games on Sunday and other festival days, prohibited by Statute, shall be six days imprisoned." Playing at ball took place in Chester Cathedral on Easter Monday, it is also quite within memory that children were sent to skip and play other games within the consecrated building, and great indignation was expressed when these proceeding were stopped.

Dancing was held in a Church in Radnorshire, and there are many records of Fives and Tennis being played against the walls of the Church. In Shropshire Churchyard sports were only discontinued in 1820.

In 1732 at Derby, a man performed an acrobatic feat on a rope fixed from the top of All Saint's steeple, to the bottom of Saint Michael's, a distance of about 150 yards, and in 1734 another performer, on a rope from the same steeple to the bottom of Saint Mary's gate, more than twice the former length, drew a wheel-barrow after him in which was a boy of thirteen. After this performance, an ass was to fly down but the rope broke, no lives were lost, but several persons were injured.

It was common practice on Sunday morning, as late as the 18th century, for the Parish Clerk either from his desk in the Church, or from the top of a gravestone in the Churchyard, to announce Bull Baiting, Dog races, Auction Sales, particulars of rewards, and all kinds of work-a-day matters.

The Bishop of London issued a proclamation in 1542, to the Clergy in his diocese prohibiting stage plays in the Church.

It was an old idea that the North door of the Church should be open at the renunciation in the baptismal service, for the excorsised Devil to take his flight.

The belief that a husband was not liable for debts previously contracted by his wife, if she at the time of her marriage brought no worldly goods, has placed on record, that brides have stood at the altar clothed only in a sheet, or in the most elementary linen garment, and at Birmingham in 1797, a bride disrobed in the Vestry, and appeared at the altar without even the amount of clothing worn by the above mentioned ladies.

Nearly all the days great and small have an ecclesiastical origin, events used to be spoken of as happening not on any particular day of the month, but as "a week before Martinmas; somewhere about Thomas Day; a week cum Barnaby; about Peter time," and the five latter Sundays of Lent, and Easter Day, were spoken of by country folk as, Tid, Mid, Miseray, Carling, Palm, and Paste-egg.

Tid is a corruption of Te Deum; Mid, may be Mid-Lent; Miseray is evidently from the penitential Psalm, "Miserere mei Deus," Paste-egg is perhaps a corruption of Pace-egg.

As might be expected, it is in association with death that superstition survives most strongly, especially in regard to places that are supposed to be haunted. Not so many years ago, nothing would induce the inhabitants of Ashover to go through the Churchyard after dark, because of the Ghost, said to have taken the form of a headless woman.

The last appearance of this Ghost that we can hear of is in the year 1890, when she is said to have been seen standing in the North aisle of the Church about 8 o'clock in the evening.

The Ghost doubtless owes its origin to the following:—

After a supper party at Stubben Edge in 1850, a wager was made that none dare go to the Churchyard and bring back a skull which was known to be lying on the ground. One of the party said to be one of the young Milnes, went and secured it. During the building of a conservatory about the year 1879, this skull was found, and caused much conjecture as to the reason for its presence at Stubben Edge, the wager of 1850 being no doubt forgotten.

Titus Wheatecroft in his book "The Young Clark's Instructor," which he wrote in 1722, mentions the following:—

Times prohibiting Marriage.

"Marriage comes in on ye 13th of January, and at Septegisseme Sunday it is out again until Low Sunday, at which time it comes in again and goes not out until Rogation Sunday, thence it is forbidden until Trinity Sunday, from thence it is forbidden until Advent Sunday, but then it goes out and comes not in again till 13th of January next following."

This custom, no doubt, dates from the Act of 1696, which rendered Ministers liable to a fine of £100 for marrying any person without publishing the Banns of Matrimony or without Licence, and that Banns of Marriage may not be published in Lent and on Fasting Days, because the mirth attending marriage was not considered suitable to the humiliation and devotion of those times. Yet marriage was allowed by Licence during Lent.

What days in ye year to give Sacrement.

"First Sunday after Michelmas, the first Sunday after Lady Day, on Good Friday (old people), on Easter Day, on Sunday after Easter Day, on Friday in Easter week give it old people at Lea. On Whitsunday."

These dates were no doubt in accordance with local custom.

### Public Penance.

"Mary Nuam, performed penance in Ashover Church, April 16th, 1724. Obadiah Bourne's text 8 of John 7. "he that is without sin let him cast the first stone at her."

A punishment imposed for a crime by the Ecclesiastical Law. The offender stood in the Church barefoot and bareheaded in a white sheet.

**Burial in Woollen.**

January 16th. 1753.

"Elizabeth Slack, of Ashover, in the County of Derby, Maketh Oath that Richard Beighton, buried at Ashover, was not wrapt or buried in any materials but what was made of sheeps wool, according to the Act of Parliament in that case made and provided.

Sworn before me, Jo. SAUNDERS. Curate of Chesterfield.

In the presence of OBADIAH BOURNE, WILLIAM ALLEN.

The custom of sewing up a corpse in flannel, originated doubtless in the Act of 1667, which was passed for the encouragement of the woollen trade, and required all bodies to be buried in woollen shrouds †; two amending statutes were passed 1678 and 1680, requiring at the funeral an affidavit to be delivered to the priest stating that the requirements of the law had been carried out, otherwise a penalty of £5 was incurred. Overseers of the Poor were also made responsible to account for burials in woollen, and of persons interred contrary to the Statute. These Acts were repealed in 1814, although long before that time the penalty for non-compliance with the law had ceased to be enforced. During the operation of the Acts for burying in woollen, the law was sometimes evaded by covering the corpse with hay or flowers, notification of which is met with in parish registers.

**Excommunication.**

"When notice is given for any body to be buried here, that comes out of another parish that ye order them to bring a Certificate from the Minister to whom they belong, by reason we do not know but the person may be excommunicated, and so put a cheat up on our Minister."

Excommunication was a terrible form of punishment in the Middle Ages, it was an Ecclesiastical censure, by which a person was excluded from the Communion of the Church, and from the Company of the Faithful. The excommunicated persons were shunned by all, and had no civil rights. By the Act of 1336, Bishops could excommunicate not only all perturbers of the Peace of the Church, but also Felons, and other offenders, and by Ecclesiastical Law excommunicated persons were not permitted to have Christian burial. The names of four persons are given in the Church Register as being excommunicated (see page 81)

Notes from other sources:—

"On the 5th day of March, 1777, Richard Gregory, of Ravensnest, paid William Milnes, steward to Robert Banks Hodgkinson, the sum of one penny to carry his mother's

† The Scotch Parliament passed an Act in 1686, which applied to Scotland only, forbidding burial in woollen and made compulsory burial in Scotch linen.

corpse up the Lidyards, their usual road being then blocked with snow. The penny was given by order of Mr. Hodgkinson to Mary Kemp a poor person."

In 1814 Elizabeth Allen paid one penny for leave to take her mother's corpse down the Lidyards, the usual Bearing road from Overton being stopped with snow.

These payments were made no doubt to avoid any question of establishing a Right of Way, but we can find no Act of Parliament which confirms this.

June 14th. Pd. Sam'el Barker for 64 Dinners

1782. and Ale for Children at Confirmation ... ... ... ... £2 4s. 0d.

Ale would be the usual beverage in those days, the cost of Tea and Coffee being prohibitive.

Numerous entries in the Churchwarden accounts refer to Lea Stalls:—

May 25th., Lea Stalls unpaid:—Robert Allen and 1694. his child; Madam Gladwin and her grandchild; Christopher Bower; Robert Mather; Mathew Briddon; and Sarah Spencer.

July 22nd., Joseph Cowley 2 Lea Stalls for his wife 1702. and child and one from Xpother Bower 10s. 0d. 1711. Mrs. Dakeyne of ye Town Head Lea Stall ... ... ... ... 3s. 4d.

The only word we can find in most authorities is "Lay-stall," which means a midden, or place where refuse is deposited. In Yorkshire Dialect "Lay" means to half cut a hedge, and another form of the word "Lig" means to lay down, but we have no doubt that the word "Lea Stalls" refers to burial in a vault or grave.\*

As nearly all the names given in these entries can be identified as persons who were buried within the Church, we must assume that the word Lea Stall implies a charge, or a fee evidently three shillings and four pence, for burial within the Church.

An open air Baptistry, which is very unusual so far North, existed near the Parson's Gate. The Font which was octagon in shape is now in the grounds of Marsh Green.

## The Rectors.

From old Derbyshire Charters or Deeds:—

RALPH. Chaplain of Ashover, 1204-1235.

As a witness to a confirmation of a grant of a tenement in Essover, by Walter, Abbot of Dale Abbey, to Richard Venator.

\* Lancashire Wills. 1527 My bodye to be buried within the White Friars of Chester, and they to have for my leystall 13s. 4d. (Chetham Soc. I. 16.)

SIMON DE MARKHAM. Rector of Ashover, 1268-1278.

1268. Galfr. de Langley, for the health of his own soul etc., gave to God, St. Mary, and Sir Ralph, the Prior of Felley Abbey, all the land he held in Essover, namely Peynstonhurst, (now called Peasonhurst) which he bought of Symon de Markham, Rector of the Church of Essover.

From the Rutland Manuscripts:—"30th January, 1278-9. Notification by Simon de Markham, Rector of the Church of Essover, that at the entreaty of Sir Geoffrey de Dethek, and by consent of the diocesan Roger, bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, he has granted to Geoffrey, his heirs, or successors, a free Chantry in the Chapel of Dethek, saving only the right of the Mother Church as to tithes etc., so that its patron be in no way prejudiced. All the parishioners at Dethek shall be bound to come to the Mother Church of Essovre on the four solemn days of the year except Sir Geoffrey de Dethek, and his heirs and successors and their household, who can at all times hear the divine office and receive the sacraments of the Church in the said Chapel. And the Chaplain who shall there celebrate, shall swear to himself and his successors to observe faithfully these terms.

His seal is appended to the document, and for greater security the seal also of Master Jordan, Archdeacon of Derby, and Geoffrey de Dethek also has appended his seal to another part of the deed, and has caused the seal of Robert, his son and next heir to be appended to it. The third part of this cyrograph bearing his own seal and Geoffrey's, and the seal of his son Robert, is delivered to the chaplain for himself and his successors."

This document is signed by:—Domino Herico, the Abbot of Dereley Abbey, Domino Johanne, the Prior of Newstead Abbey, Domino Thoma, the Prior of Felley Abbey, Ricardo de Morley, a Judge or Magistrate. and others.

ROGER DE EYN COURT. Rector of Ashover, 1302-1343.

Grant and release from Margery de Rerysby, formerly wife of Radulphi de Rerisby, to Adam de Rerysby, her son, and Deugya, his wife, of the manor of Essovere, called "le Newehalle." Witness:—Domino Roger de Eincurt, Rector ecclesie de Essovere. Dated:—Feast of St. Fabian and St. Sebastian. (20th January, 1302). Robert de Reresby appointed the Rector in 1343, on the death of Roger de Eyncourt.

The De Eyncourts were an important family in Derbyshire and Nottingham. Walter de Ayncourt came from Aincourt, a village in France, near Nantes, he was cousin to Remigus, Bishop of Lincoln, and believed to be



THE REV. IMMANUEL BOURNE M.A., Rector of Ashover 1621.  
*(From a Painting in Ashover Rectory.)*

some relation or connection of William the Conqueror, who rewarded him with 67 Lordships in the counties of Northampton, York, Derby, Lincoln, and Nottingham. Ralph, the second Baron founded Thurgarton Abbey, and the eighth Baron, Edmund, died 12th February, 1301.

Roger de Eyncourt, the Rector, purchased Clattercotes Hall in Ashover, (now a farmhouse) from James Cadogan, and gave it to his son John, who held it under Roger Bele, lord of Crich. On John's death, without issue, he was found to be only a natural son of Roger, and the estate was forfeited to Roger Bele.

The Episcopal Registers at Lichfield begin about 1297, are in much abbreviated Latin and not indexed, but from these we get:—

Date	Rector	Patron
1343	Robert de Reresby	Adam de Reresby
1344	William de Reresby	Adam de Reresby
1349	Richard de Reresby	Adam de Reresby
1369	Thomas Wikirsley	Sir Thomas de Reresby
1378	William de Reresby	Sir Thomas de Reresby
1416	William Reresby	Thomas Reresby
1466	William Stokes	Thomas Winkworth *
1471	Philip Eyre	John, Earl of Shrewsbury †
1504	John Reresby	Ralph Reresby
1518	Brian Roos	Ralph Reresby
1529	Leonard Reresby	Thomas Reresby
1557	Thomas Hulley	Lionel Reresby
1615	John Hancock	Sir Thomas Reresby
1620	Stephen Haxby	The King

1621. IMMANUEL BOURNE. Patron, Sir Thomas Tyron, on the death of John Hancock.

We suppose that the institution of Stephen Haxby was quashed as informal. Immanuel was the eldest of twelve sons and nine daughters, the children of Henry Bourne, Vicar of East Haddon, Northamptonshire, where he died August 15th, 1649, aged 100 years. Immanuel was born December 27th, 1590, entered Christ Church, Oxford, in 1607, B.A. January 1612, but M.A. was not completed until 1616. About that time by the favour of Dr. William Piers, Canon of Christ Church, and Rector of St. Christopher's Church, near the Exchange, London, he became Preacher there, and was patronised in his studies and calling by Sir Samuel Tyron, Kt., who resided in the parish.

On July 12th, 1621, he was instituted Rector of Ashover, and in 1623 purchased Eastwood Hall and the Advowson

\* This institution is erased and then the same name repeated, but on the representation of the trustees of Sir Thomas Reresby, he was again instituted in 1469.

† For his turn as guardian of Thomas Reresby.

of the Church of Ashover, from the executors of Sir Thomas Reresby. In 1642 when the Civil War broke out, he sided with the Presbyterians, and was much molested by the loyal party in Ashover. The destruction of his house in 1646 by the Roundheads, is related in his letter to his cousin, \* and he quitted Ashover to become Preacher to the Congregation in St. Sepulchre's Church, and was much admired by his brethren.

The following is an extract from a letter dated May 4th, 1883, written by Robert Wood, of Cheetham Hill, Manchester:—

"About a mile-and-a-half from here is an old oak framed mansion named Kersall-bell, which had really been a cell belonging to the Clunie monks, but after the reformation it came into the hands of a family named Byrom, and they have remained in possession ever since till perhaps a dozen years ago. One of this family residing there about 150 years ago was Dr. Byrom, the composer of the celebrated Christmas Carol, beginning "Christians awake." He appears to have collected and tabulated all the old family letters and papers he could find and indexed any letters and papers he thought interesting, and had them put into a large chest. I had permission to select any of the books I liked best and to take copies of any of the letters and papers I thought interesting. In looking them over I found the letter of Emanuel Bourne, but the ink had so faded I was not able to make it all out, and I took my book-keeper and between us we made it out. When I went again the week after I found an old lady in possession who was a relative of the person to whom it was left, and she seeing as she said, an old chest full of papers and lumber, took and put them on the fire and there was only one letter saved which had flown under the fender out of sight. This letter was from the great Duke of Bridgewater to Dr. Byrom. I did however find some very valuable old books which I presented to the Manchester Free Library."

Robert Wood married a native of Upperend, Ashover, whose family name was Buxton, her brother married one of Samuel Wheatcroft's daughters, and she was in possession of the book "Cosmographie," by Peter Heylin, D.D., which is now in the library of the Ashover Institute, and was presented to the Institute by this Robert Wood,

In Immanuel Bourne's "Light from Christ," published in 1646, he states:—

"The sad evidences of this deplorable ignorance I myself have found, in not a few of that Congregation,

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\* This letter is given in full in "The Inns and Outs of Ashover."

and County (where above twenty years I lived, a preacher of the Gospel) as is not fit to be named amongst Christians. And the woful effects of this blinde popish ignorance I myself have found by sorrowful experience also; and that almost in the begining of our English Troubles (this lamentable Civil War). The King's Majesty no sooner set up His Royal Standard at Nottingham (within 20 miles of my Habitation) but divers of these blinde, ignorant, profane, and Popishly affected, of the baser sort, (I speak nothing of the Superiors they prepare for war) make haste towards the Standard; and prefently the Round Heads (a name they quickly learned) were threatned with Plundering Fire and Sword, myself with divers others well affected to Religion, the King's Majesty, Parliament and Kingdom. were constrained to flee our houses, from whence, ever since I have lived a banished man, there having not yet been for any space of time, either safe or comfortable abiding. And it was not long after that, but by such like Popish, ignorant Soldiers, and in particular, by a commander in the Earl of Newcastle's Army, a papest, (since dead) I was plundered not only of my goods, and study of books, above 20 years in gathering, and my house barborously torn in pieces and spoiled, standing this day a spectacle to witnesse thuth (to the shame of blinde, ignorant, prophane, and Popish malice of Malignant Enemies).

"I am sure to my loss of more hundreds of pounds, † than for the present I am willing to glory in. But which was worse my Manuscripts, near 30 years Studies and pains night and day, rent in pieces and taken away, the greater part of them, and the rest after from a Garrison of the Parliament, taken by the same Earl of Newcastle's Army. And for all my loss (besides what will be due to me upon the Public Faith) I expect no recompence but from the Lord."

Immanuel published several other books :—"The Rainbow," 1617. "The Godly Man's Guide," 1620. "The True Way of a Christian," 1622. "The Anatomie of Conscience," 1623. - "A Light from Christ," 1645. "A Defence and Justification of Ministers Maintenance," 1659, and others, some of which appear to have run into more than one edition.

About 1656 by the favour of those in authority, he became Rector of Waltham-on-the-Woulds, conformed at His Majesty's Restoration, and on March 12th, 1669, was instituted and inducted into the Rectory of Ailstone (now Aylestone), Leicestershire. He died December 27th, 1672, in his 82nd year, was buried in the Chancel of the Church at Aileston, and soon after, a little inscription

† Above 500 pounds, is stated in his book of 1659.

Heare is mirth and melody.  
an Amaygram upon my Cuzen: Eliz. Wheatcroft.

Elizabeth the mother of abou  
left in her haire, when salutation don.  
In her oulde age, to bear a godly child.  
Zeale from her haire, shewing the good minnes sonnes. Lye  
Eliz. She exell, Glory to god on hys.  
Blest be the Day that I came thee so ne.  
Elizabeth was blest and praye too.  
The more oulde, god had aworht in her.  
Haue you accur then rothe your Tutes tell you.  
Very well thise words, less greater blessings for you.  
Haue for respect for them now they growe vane.  
Eekew all euill, then you shall beholde  
Amongst the Saints, there faces onys agayne.  
that from your child hood, god you sweetly traine.  
Cate all your care on god and Christe his son.  
Rise up betime, and to his Alter run.  
Offer your sacrifice to god and pray.  
for he is ready to affer each day.  
Then virgin like, striue for that prabow way.  
Loo: Wheatcroft  
upon two ladies who gowt me asiluer bafen

Right vertuous lady, I am in Jody bound,  
beuer to prouise your firdnes whiche I found.  
Beauty I am sure, your person much did grace.  
Eliz. were vane, but not your hunders not face.  
Kind were you then, and free to me your Clarke.  
Laiing Madam, thankes with all my hart.  
Had I quall out of an Angels wing.  
Be sure I woulde your lasting prouise sing.  
Of yowre chise Ladys, this of you I le say.  
Cheauen be your quid from day two day  
Rise up your prouise (poets) and make then sing  
Eternall felicitie, that the world may ring.

writ by mee, at Hocklæ, when I was last. 60.

Leonard Wheatcroft  
Sen: in 81.

Scene

## LEONARD WHEATCROFT'S MANUSCRIPT.

"Com you gallants looke and by,  
Heare is mirth and melody."

was put over his grave. Immanuel married Jemima, daughter of Sir Thomas Beckingham, of Toleshunt, Essex, a rich and beautiful woman, who died in 1679 in the Rectory of Ashover at the age of 79, and is buried in the Church under the Communion Rails.

1669. OBADIAH BOURNE. Patron, Thomas Bourne, citizen of London.

Obadiah, was the son of Immanuel, and according to the tablet in the Chancel died January 19th, 1711, age 81, his wife Elizabeth Palmer, of Gedling, Notts., died April 11th, 1710, aged 64.

1711. SAMUEL BOURNE. Patron, Mathew Powell, Clerk for his turn.

Samuel was the son of Obadiah, and was buried March 27th, 1719.

1719. OBADIAH BOURNE. Patron, Laurence Bourne.

Obadiah was the brother of Samuel, and according to the tablet in the Chancel died October 6th, 1763, aged 80; his wife Rebecca Lynch, of Groves, Kent, died August 3rd, 1754, aged 62.

1763. LAURENCE BOURNE. Patron, John Simpson, Clerk.

Laurence was the son of Laurence, a surgeon, of Marsh Green, Ashover, who died December 19th, 1749, aged 73, by Martha who died February 12th, 1751, and nephew to the former Rector. He was Ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Ely, March 15th, 1746, Vicar of Dronfield, 1748, married Jane Gregson, a widow who died May 3rd, 1781, aged 75, died at Dronfield, March 27th, 1797, aged 74, and was buried with his wife there. The Advowson and the estates reverted to his sister Jemima, wife of the Rev. George Fidler, of Shirland, whose daughter married John Nodder, of Cutthorpe.

1797. LAURENCE SHORT. Patrons, Lax Maynard and another.

Laurence was the son of John and Ann Short, of Dronfield, he died February, 1835, at Scarborough, aged 65, where he is buried, his wife's name is believed to have been Halwell.

1835. JOSEPH NODDER. Patron, John Charge, trustee of the late Laurence Bourne.

Joseph was the son of John Nodder, of Cutthorpe, he was Ordained Deacon 1812, Priest 1813; Curate at North Wingfield, Derbyshire, and Grafton Regis, Northamptonshire. Instituted Rector of Ashover June 30th, 1835, Rural Dean August, 1837, he died January 15th, 1878, aged 88, his wife Mary Ann Fletcher, whom he married May, 1847, died March 28th, 1895, aged 78.

1878. JOHN BOURNE NODDER. Patrons, Mary Anne Nodder, widow, and Henry Edwin Bailey.

The present Rector, son of Joseph Nodder, born July 7th, 1853; educated Repton; Corpus Christi College, Cambridge; B.A. 1875; Ordained 1877; M.A. 1880; Hon. Curate at Heath, Derbyshire, married Mary Eleanor Margaret, daughter of Thomas Colmore of Ashfurlong, Warwickshire.

## The Parish Clerks.

1650	Leonard Wheatcroft, (see below)
1663	Adam Cowlishaw, buried August 3rd, 1680.
1680	Leonard (as above), buried January 3rd, 1706, aged 80.
1706	Titus Wheatcroft, buried December 21st, 1762, aged 84.
1759	Robert Wall, buried December 20th, 1797, aged 82.
1800	Benjamin Wall, buried February 2nd, 1825, aged 57.
1825	Joseph Wall, buried May 26th, 1837, aged 72.
1837	Samuel Lomas.
1846	Jno. H. Williamson, (left the District).
1849	Jemima Nodder, Miss, died May 28th 1874, aged 95.
1874	John B. Nodder.
1878	Mary Anne Nodder, Mrs., died March 24th, 1895, aged 78
1895	Jemima C. Challis.

Leonard Wheatcroft, was the eldest of six sons and three daughters, the children of Leonard Wheatcroft, Yeoman, who died 28th November, 1648, and Anne Harrison, who died February, 1692. Leonard was born 1st May, 1627, according to his own history, "began to be Clarke of the Church, on the first Sunday in May, 1650," and his son Titus informs us that "he was sworn Clark before John Spateman, February 3rd, 1653."

In 1666 Leonard was living at Boulsover, where he no doubt went in 1663, when Adam Cowlishaw acted as parish clerk. Leonard began to build his house at Hockley, Ashover, in 1672, which was completed in 1675, and again took up the Clerkship on August 8th, 1680, which he held until his death, when he was "aged 79 years and eight months."

Titus in his Memorandum of 1722, informs us:—

"An Antient Rule of Clerkwages made to my father Leonard Wheatcroft, in the year 1650.

"Whereas Leonard Wheatcroft with the consent of Mr. Bourne publickly chosen Clark by the greater part of the the parish, and is approved upon trial, and whereas the antient wages was a peney a plough and a half peney a cottage where no corne is sown, besides what was customarily given at our houses about or before the Nativity of Christ yearly.

"Now wee providing that we always except and reserve to our selves our said custome noways to be broken, do nevertheless, promise unto the said Leonard Wheatcroft upon consideration of the antient Clarkwages and the accustomed gatherings and gifts aforesaid for serving Clark.

"To pay unto him yearly upon Newyears day the several sums of Money set down to our several Names, provided that this payment continue no longer than the said Leonard shall continue Clark, with the approbation of ye greater part of the parish and our parson, and in witness whereof we have got our names and marks in the beginning of the parish Register."

Unfortunately it has not been possible to find these names in the Register.

Adam Cowlishaw was buried August 3rd, 1680, but his age is not given, and Leonard according to a note in the Register, enters again August 8th, 1680.

"I, Titus Wheatcroft, this Leonard's youngest son, have been Clark since he dy'd in 1706, till this year 1752, being aged 74, born in 1679, being Clark 46 year."

He was Baptised July 4th, 1679, and buried December 21st, 1762,

Titus informs us:—

"At Christmas go round all the 4 quarters, as Ashover, Miltowne, Alton and Northidge, and the Over-end. Demand according to the antient Custom a halfpenny a cottage, and a penny plough, and n'x ye good woman of ye house pleases to give besides in the wallet. Go to Lea and Holloway, on Thursday before Easter, demanding the same dues, But Remember to enquire what children hath been Baptized by any other Minister, that they may be carefully Rejester'd according to ye year."

The payment from 295 persons is given for the seven years, 1724-30, and averages a total of £1 7s. 5d. per annum.

Titus also gives us some personal information:—

"Inventory of furniture in my house, January 22nd, 1723, Ten Pewter dishes, 25/6d. One pewter Candlestick, one mustard pot, 8 pewter porringers, 6/-. Four flint glasses, 1/. One Decanter, 8d. A seal'd Bed in ye parlour, and the bed cloathes, 30/-. One pewter chamber, 1/6d. Five chairs at 10 pence each, 4/2d. One Woven rugg, 20/-. One arm'd chair, 1/6d. One screw Candle-stick to Talor by, 6d. Six Razors, 4/. three penknives, 1/6d."

Other items bring the total to £23 1s. 1d., he also values the tools in his workshop at £9 3s. 9d. being evidently a carpenter, and his list of books totals 383 volumes.

The family of Wall were shoemakers and publicans, one Job Wall, was at the Crispin Inn in 1646. Robert Wall kept the "Boot & Slipper" in Ashover, and moved to the Crispin Inn in 1768. Benjamin was the father of Mrs. Dolly Revell.

83

The School of Ashurst is built of very  
good-stone, the length within of walls is something  
about Ten yards and the breadth is Nine yards  
very-well paved w<sup>th</sup> great stone, and fire-place.  
Three good windows on y<sup>e</sup> south side, and two on  
the west end, adorned within with 6 very good  
seats, and 2 writing-boards, and a chamber which  
is almost halfe compas of the school, with a  
good large writing-table, and a writing-desk  
fitted very conveniently for the writing boys &  
girls, with good room for the Master to walk  
amongst them, to instruct them in the rules  
of writing, and arithmatick; the whole School  
will hold 120 Schollars; the face of the school  
stands very near the twelve a clock sun; it  
hath likewise a very pritty Court, or garden  
which is roundabout of same about six yards  
wide, or broad; Incompaffed with a good wall, and  
at every corner of y<sup>e</sup> garden, there is placed a  
birch-tree, that y<sup>e</sup> m<sup>ay</sup> not want shade for  
the moderate correction of his unruly Schollars,  
and betwixt every birch-tree there is placed  
2 handsome spreading Sycamores, for to sit  
under an shade themselves in summertime  
from the violent heat of y<sup>e</sup> sun; Moreover there  
is set without the Court, on a pleafant green

TITUS WHEATCROFT'S MANUSCRIPT OF 1722.

The inscription in Latin, which still remains over the door, is a quotation from Persius, Sat. III., 23, translated reads—"You are moist and ductile clay; what you need is to be taken in hand from this instant, and moulded ceaselessly on the swift-revolving wheel."

Samuel Lomas married a Wall, he was a baker by trade, and lived at the Bakehouse, but we can find no record of his death.

John Williamson was a schoolmaster, and carried on a private school at West Bank House. He quarrelled with the Rector, and when he was deprived of Office for giving out notices in the Church on his own account without authority, the Rector decided in future to keep the office of Parish Clerk in his own family, and carry out the work by deputy.

### Deputy Parish Clerks.

1850 Thomas Joseph Beardow, died July, 1916, aged 87.  
1915 Thomas Revell.

Thomas Revell is one of the Wall family.

### Dogwhippers.

From the Churchwarden accounts:—

1773	Anthy Towndrow Coat as Bill	...	15s. 6d.
May 25th.	Do. pd. for making	...	3s. 6d.
1780	To Anthy Towndrow for Dore tenting ...	...	6s. 8d.
	and a pair of shoes for him	...	5s. 6d.
1787	pd. Godfrey Dethick, wages for		
Feb. 6th.	Dog whiper	...	12s. 2d.

From the above and other entries, Anthy, Doorkeeper or Dogwhipper at the Church, had a new coat and a pair of shoes each year, and remained in office until about 1787, when Godfrey Dethick evidently acted as substitute, as the salary is paid to Godfrey for Anthy in 1790. In 1792, Joseph Naden occupies the post at a salary of two guineas a year, and is supplied with the shoes and coat, the cloth for which cost £1 5s. 10½d., and the making by William Wheatcroft 4s. 6d. He remained in Office until 1813, as John Brown, "Dog-whiper," is paid the salary on April 15th, 1814. John Brown is succeeded by Mary Brown in 1836, who in 1840 has the help of Samuel Slack. In 1843 Samuel takes on the Office by himself, but he is no longer supplied at the parish expense with the coat and shoes, and remains in office until he died March 19th, 1852, and was followed by William Smith, who was the last.

William Smith is still remembered as wearing a coat of either dark blue, or bottle green cloth with brass buttons on a Sunday. He used to hit the boys in Church if they behaved badly. He died in 1882.

From the Burials:—

1811 January 20th, Godfrey Dethick, aged 92, of Eddlestall  
1843 August 24th, Mary Brown, aged 64, of Bump Mill.

The old Lazy-tongs, by which sleepers in Church were awakened, still exist.

## The Churchwardens.

The first Churchwarden account that we have seen, is that of William Milnes, for the year 1772-3, but as the book is mutilated, we cannot complete that year.

Up to about 1828 each of the two Churchwardens kept separate accounts, but the expenditure does not seem to have been allocated specially to either, and accounts were paid, or partly paid by the account in funds at the moment. The money for the maintainence of the Church, was obtained by a Levy, or Rate on the whole parish, and as one Churchwarden accounts for the Levy on the Ashover and Upperend Quarters, and the other for the Levy on the Milltown and Alton Quarters, it was no doubt found convenient to keep two separate accounts.

From another source :—

"August 16th, 1693. The Accounts of Jno. Purseglove, Blacksmith, and Isaac Redfearn for Ed. Purseglove, of Alton, Churchwardens. Disbursed as by these accounts appears, with the allowance of the Quakers assessment that could not be rec'd by them. £11 4s. 7d. Quakers presented Anthony Woodward. 6d. Sam Clark, 8d. Widdow, 1s. 4d. Isaac Bunting, 8d."

In 1773-4 the total expenditure for the year was £28 0s. 1d. which called for "4 Levy's" on the parish, which produced £3 7s. 7d. for Ashover Quarter, £5 2s. 2½d. for Upperend Quarter, and £9 9s. 0d. from Alton and Milltown, to which was added £1 8s. 0d. from Lea and Holloway, and £1 from Dethick.

In 1814, Lea, Dethick, and Holloway contributed £15 7s. 0d., and the remainder of the parish £36 12s. 2d., and in 1822, £15 7s. 0d. and £32 18s. 6d. respectively. This balance of the contributions evidently led to some objection on the part of Lea, Dethick, and Holloway, as in 1825 the contribution was £14, when the remainder of the parish produced £63 14s. 11d. In 1840 the sum paid, evidently under pressure by Lea, Dethick, and Holloway, was £10 called the "Dethic Modus," and by the rest of the parish £60 15s. 8d. which is stated to be a Rate of two pence in the £. In 1846 some attempt was made to satisfy Lea, Dethick, and Holloway, by appointing Mr. John Smedley, of Lea Bridge, as Chapel Warden. This man would be the Smedley of Hydropathic fame.

In 1847 a Rate of three pence in the £ was levied, but the "Dethick Modus" was only obtained again by pressure, for Mr. Newbold, of Matlock was consulted respecting the Rate, and the Churchwardens paid a visit to Lea, to consult with the inhabitants.

In 1854 the Churchwardens were, John Wall for the Rector, Gregory, of Ravensnest, for the People, and George Dicken, for Dethick.

"At the Vestry Meeting, May 3rd, 1854. The Churchwardens laid before the Meeting the decayed state in which the top of the Spire was found, and Mr. Brown's report that it could not be repaired without taking down and restoring about eight feet of the masonry. The tower was also found to be taking great injury from the wet, the parapet and one buttress at the west end of it being ready to fall down, and the bell chambers decaying from the same cause. The Meeting being of opinion that the repairs were much needed, left the Churchwardens to carry them out in the best and cheapest way."

"At a Vestry Meeting, on July 13th, 1854. The Churchwardens submitted an account of the outlay for the repairs that had been done, and the requisite expenses till Easter, 1855, proposing Rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pence in the £. Mr. Nightingale rose, and said that he was come along with his neighbours from Lea and Holloway to do away with the payment of Church Rates to Ashover, then and for ever. Mr. Smedley rose and moved an adjournment of the Meeting for 12 months which was carried by a show of hands."

"At a Vestry Meeting, December 28th, 1854. It was a fact known to the whole parish that the spire was taking great injury both inside and out from rain, the weathercock had been fast for several years, and by its visible rocking with every gale, threatened a crash. The balance in hand of the previous year's accounts was applied to set matters right. A Rate of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pence in the £ was proposed and seconded. Mr. Smedley rose and first questioning the legality of calling the Meeting, made a rambling in-coherent speech, well seasoned with invective against Parsons, Churches, and Churchwardens, contrasting the poverty of Lea and Holloway with the wealth of Ashover. Mr. John Wildgoose, of Lea, descended somewhat vehemently upon the doings of Dissent and the shortcomings of the Church in the Educational movement. The Amendment for no Rate was carried with three cheers, great confusion prevailed. Mr. Marsden, of Lea, said, that Church Rates were abolished by the late decision of the Judges in the Braintree case."

We thus get the explanation of the starting of the Voluntary System, which depends on Subscriptions and Offertories for the upkeep of the Church. Mr. Smedley built the Butts Chapel in 1857, and dedicated it "To the Damnation of the Parson of Ashover." It is stated that the reason for the site being so far out of the village is, that Mr. Smedley desired it to be within sight of Marsh Green, the residence of the Rector.

In 1855 a collection was made in the parish in lieu of a Church Rate, which totals £45 17s.  $10\frac{1}{2}$ d., to which is added Offertory money of £2 5s.  $5\frac{1}{2}$ d., which only partly paid for

repairs, and left the Churchwardens, after paying accounts, £54 10s. 9½d. in debt.

Offertories towards the Church Expenses were at first monthly, but in 1884 they were taken weekly, and for that year total £77 0s. 2d.

Churchwardens were to see that all the parishioners duly resorted to their Parish Church, and there to continue during the time of Divine Service; not to permit any to stand idle, walk, or make any noise in the Church, or to contend for places, they were to chastise disorderly boys, and take off the hats of those who would irreverently keep them on. Further, they must search Ale-Houses on Sunday, that there be no persons therein, during the Divine Service, and levy penalties on persons not coming to Church, on profaners of the Sabbath in pastimes, tippling, drunkenness, cursing, and swearing, according to the various Acts of Parliament.

### The Churchwardens.

1664	Giles Cowley	1683	Robert Fell
	Geo. Towndrow		Thomas Hole
1665	Geo. Bower	1684	Richard Bower
	Xpother Bower		Arthur Riggot
1666	Anthony Prestwidge	1685	Geo. Turner
	Henry Towndrow		Richard Cowlishaw
1667	Roger Coate	1686	James Milnes
	Richard Hole		Ambrose Hibard
1668	Wm. Bower	1687	Wm. Dakeyn, of Stubbins
	Isaac Hopkinson		Jos. Cowley
1669	Geo. Calton	1688	Isaac Redfearne
	Henry Prestwidge		Chas. Alsop
1670	Jno. Lomas	1689	Geo. Kemp
	Roger Hollingworth		Samuel Outram
1671	Thomas Wheelwright	1690	Jos. Hodgkinson
	Wm. Hole		Israel Cantrill
1672	James Spencer	1691	Edward Hodgkinson
	Richard Hopkinson		Jno. Towndrow, Junr.
1673	Mathew Briddon	1692	Jno. Purseglove
	Wm. Hollingworth		Isaac Redfearn *
1674	Thomas Woodhouse	1693	Jno. Higginbottom
	Anthony Prestwidge		Charles Riggot
1675	Henry Barker	1694	Jno. Rhodes
	Mathew Booth		Joseph Allen
1676	Jno. Bunting	1695	Jos. Purseglove
	Edward Henstock		Jno. Hole
1677	Richard Bacon	1696	Samuel Briddon
	Giles Hopkinson		Jos. Hole
1678	Hezekiah Wagstaffe	1697	Robert Waterhouse
	Abraham Norman		Jno. Marshall
1679	Jno. Briddon	1698	Giles Cowley
	Geo. Ragge		Sam Hollingworth
1680	Samuel Wheatcroft	1699	Wm. Botham, Senr.
	Henry Cockyne		Giles Hopkinson
1681	Geo. Beighton	1700	Jno. Barker
	Richard Nightingale		Sam Ragge
1682	Wm. Hodgkinson	1701	Xpother Bower, Junr.
	Wm. Hodgkinson, of Bole Hill		Robert Milwood

\* These persons rendered the accounts, and evidently acted as substitutes for those nominated by the Vestry.

1702	Joshua Wostenholme	1732	Jos. Allsop
	Joseph Bowering		Jno. Gregory
1703	William Botham *	1733	Wm. Hodgkinson
	Thomas Ragge		Benjamin Towndrow
1704	Job Allen	1734	Giles Cowley
	James Wilson		Jno. Hole
1705	John Vicars	1735	Ed. Lomas
	Edward Ragge		Ed. Slack
1706	Jno. Hole, of Dale House	1736	John Bower
	Wm. Blanksby		Richard Bower *
1707	Richard Purseglove	1737	Jno. Barker
	Wm. Hole, of Berridge House		Thomas Farnsworth
1708	John Vernon	1738	Sam Haslam
	Enock Smith		Jno. Cockyne
1709	Godfrey Basford	1739	James Wilson
	Jno. Mather, Blacksmith		Jno. Cockyne
1710	Jno. Mather, of Wash House	1740	Wm. Rhodes
	Robert Smith		Geo. Blanksby
1711	Richard Nightingale	1741	Jno. Bower
	Jno. Lomas, Senr.		Jno. Rhodes, Junr.
1712	Charles Bower of Shuterlea	1742	James Milnes
	Wm. Hodgkinson, of Ashover		Isaac Bowne
1713	Wm. Hodgkinson	1743	Jno. Twigg
	Jno. Hilton		Jno. Clark
1714	Giles Cowley	1744	Jno. Twigg
	Jno. Rhodes, Senr.		Jno. Clark
1715	Joseph Hodgkinson	1745	Wm. Rhodes
	James Milnes, Junr.		Godfrey Hodgkinson *
1716	Geo. Bower	1746	Wm. Gregory
	Richard Beighton		Ed. Purseglove
1717	Anthony Bunting	1747	Jno. Lomas
	Arthur Robinson		Ed. Hopkinson
1718	Edmund Hodgkinson	1748	Jno. Souter
	Robert Booth		Wm. Gregory
1719	Jno. Rhodes, Junr.	1749	Jno. Bunting
	Wm. Botham		Edmund Hodgkinson
1720	Thomas Milward	1750	Wm. Milnes
	John Rhodes *		Arthur Riggott
1721	James Wilson	1751	Abraham Redfearn
	Sam Haslam		Anthony Hopkinson
1722	Capt. Wm. Hodgkinson	1752	Jno. Rhodes
	Joseph Milnes		Geo. Allen
1723	Edward Alleine	1753	John Rhodes
	Mathew Hawley		Geo. Allen
1724	Arthur Robinson *	1754	Jno. Bassitt
	Wm. Blanksby, Senr.		Christopher Hogg
1725	Godfrey Basford *	1755	Jno. Bassitt
	Robert Millward		Xpother Hogg
1726	James Hilton	1756	Jno. Woodward
	John Rhodes, Junr. *		Jno. Willson
1727	Geo. Kempe	1757	Jno. Woodward
	Richard Beighton *		Jno. Willson
1728	Robert Stephenson	1758	Wm. Williamot
	Ed. Ragge, of Peasonhurst		Jno. Hole
1729	Ed. Cowlishaw	1759	Wm. Williamot
	Thomas Hole		Jno. Hole
1730	Jno. Rhodes	1760	Robert Wall
	Jno. Downs		Geo. Wright
1731	Francis Haslam	1761	Robert Wall
	Jos. Allen		Geo. Wright

\* These persons rendered the accounts, and evidently acted as substitutes for those nominated by the Vestry.

1762	Richard Towndrow	1846	Jno. Smedley +
	Jno. Bamford	1848	Jos. Taylor
1763	Richard Towndrow		Jno Sampson
	Jno. Bamford	1849-50	Jno. Wall
1764	Wm. Blanksby		Jno. Ellse
	Godfrey Dethick	1851-2	Thomas Wilson
1765	Sam Kirk		Jno. Wall
	Wm Williamot *		Jno. Hole +
1766	Isaac Bowne	1853	Jno. Wall
	Richard Vernon		Jos. Tomlinson
1767	Isaac Bowne		Geo. Dicken +
	Richard Vernon	1854	John Wall
1768	Isaac Bowne		— Gregory (Ravensnest)
	Jno. Towndrow		Geo. Dicken +
1769	Richard Vernon	1855	Thomas Lee (Buntingfield)
	James Slack		Jos. Eaton (Upperend)
1770	Richard Vernon	1856	Wm. Lowe
	James Slack		Elijah Hall
1771	Sam Haslam	1857	Wm. Lowe
	Wm. Willmot		Sam Goodlad
1772	Wm. Milnes	1858-9	Wm. Lowe
	Richard Gregory		Jno. Barker
1773	Wm. Milnes	1860-2	Wm. Lowe
	Richard Gregory		Jos. B. Stanley
1774	Geo. Hodgkinson	1863-4	Wm. Lowe
	Robert Goodlad		Peter Moore
1775	Geo. Hodgkinson	1865	John Thompson
	Robert Wall		Benjamin Hardy
1776-7	Jno. Bunting	1866-7	John Thompson
	James Bradley		Richard Barker
1778-9	Robert Waterhouse	1868	John Thompson
	Jno. Gregory		Robert Tomlinson
1780	Arthur Robinson	1869-70	John Thompson
	Wm. Cantrill		Geo. Ellse
1781-2	Arthur Robinson	1871	Peter Moore
	Sam Dethick		John Clayton
1783-5	Robert Barker	1872-4	Geo. Ellse
	Arthur Riggott		Robert Revell
1786 to	Wm. Milnes	1875-83	Geo. Ellse
1813	Jno. Twigg		John Jackson
1814-9	Geo. Bamford	1884-95	John Jackson
	Wm. Eaton		Walter Ellse
1820-2	Geo. Bamford	1896-7	J. H. Twigg
	Robert Tomlinson		Henry Revell
1823-6	Geo. Bamford	1898-02	Henry Revell
	Robert Tomlinson		James Gothard
1827-8	Robert Warren	1903-5	John B. Gregory
	Robert Tomlinson		Henry Revell
1829-35	Chas. Milnes	1906-10	John B. Gregory
	Jos. Thompson		John Taylor
1836-41	Jos. Thompson	1911	William Tomlinson
	Wm. Gregory		John B. Gregory
1842-4	Jos. Taylor	1912-22	William Tomlinson
	Thomas Sharp		Walter Haslam
1845-7	Jos. Taylor	1923	William Tomlinson
	Geo. Bollington		Joseph Revell

\* These persons rendered the accounts, and evidently acted as substitutes for those nominated by the Vestry.

† Appointed Chapel-Warden for Dethick.

## Charities.

Name.	Capital.	Interest.	Date.	Source.	Purpose.
Shakerley, Eliz.	£1 6 8		Will—10th Feb., 1428		Poor
Bunting, John	Rent.	£0 15 0	Will—17th Mar., 1666		Poor
Bower, Geo.	...	£0 10 0	Will—24th Jan., 1677	Babington Pringle	Poor at Xmas
† Sleigh, Samuel	...	£3 4 0	Will—20th May, 1684	Washington Hay	School
," "	£1 0 0	...	," , , ,	Kings Lant, and Little Meadow	Schoolmaster
Storer, Anthony	," , ,	£1 0 0	Deed—12th Feb., 1705	Bread on Sunday	
Carlton, Thomas	," , ,	£0 5 0	Will—28th Dec., 1715	Schoolmaster	
Bower, Sarah	£40 0 0	£0 5 0	Long Croft	Poor at Xmas	
Hodgkinson, Eliz.	£60 0 0	Interest.	Will—22nd Dec., 1723	School	
Hodgkinson, Richard	Rent.	£1 0 0	Will—22nd Dec., 1733	8 penny Loaves every Sunday	
," Milnes, William	£20 0 0	£1 0 0	1780	Stilecroft	Bread
Milnes, John	£20 0 0	Interest.	1780	Nethersalt well	School
Short, Rev. Lawrence	£10 0 0	;	1819		,"
Nodder, Bright	£5 0 0	;	,"		,"
Kirk, John	£5 0 0	;	,"		,"
Gisborne, Rev. Francis...	£5 10 0	Deed—11th Nov., 1819	From Trustees	Flannel on St. Thomas Day	
Evans, John	£166 13 4	Interest.	Will—14th Feb., 1870	From Trustees	
Jackson, Kaye	£200 0 0	;	Will—April, 1880	Consols	20 Poor Widows at Xmas
Thompson, John	£500 0 0	;	Deed—March, 1881	,"	Poor
Waterhouse, Harriette...	£200 0 0	;	Will—30th Mar., 1881	Prizes and Poor	
Bassett, Joseph	£2500 0 0	;	From Trustees	Beef to Poor St. Thomas Day	
Hodgkinson, William		Will—2nd April, 1906	Consols	Poor, 21st December, (his Birthday)	
Nodder, Rev. Joseph		Deed—3rd June, 1728		Ashover Hill School	
		Deed—4th Dec., 1847		Church School on Glebe Land	

† This gift was £4, but Thomas Sleigh, grandson of Samuel, refused to pay the said £4, stating, that the school should be made a Free School, the case was tried at Derby, June 18th, 1728, and again at Chesterfield, Jan. 15th, 1730, and a Memorandum, dated June 27th, 1731, stayed the proceedings which were pending in the Court of Chancery, as the said Thomas agreed to pay the £4 per annum, and a sum of £60 for arrears, but we can find no reason for the reduction except the statement on the Charity Board:—"now reduced, it is supposed, by deduction of Land Tax" and a document is said to have existed which confirms this.

## Burial Places, 1722-30.

From the Titus M.S.S.:—

ADAMS. This family lie buried at the head of Samuel Everard's stone.

ALLSOP. Of Martin Green, is buried by Richard Hopkinson's stone, a flat stone with C and A on it.

ALLWOODS. Are buried at the foot of Samuel Haslam's stone, a tombstone with letters on it.

ALLEN. Of Dicklant, is buried at the feet of Will Hopkinson, of Eastwood, a headstone with E and A on it.

ALLEN. Of Badger Lane Yate, at the head of Thomas Millington's stone, a headstone with A and A on it.

ANDREWS. Bury on the South side of the View-tree, † at the head of John Shemild's stone.

ALLEN. (Job's wife of the Lea), was buried just at the feet of Thomas Bowler, at ye Chancel end.

ALLSOP. Of Hill Top, is buried just betwixt John Siddon's stone and Samuel Stringfellow's.

ALLEN. (John of Hay) was buried just at the feet of Sarah Boden, close by Edward Henstock's stone.

BEARDSLEYS. Of Slack, are buried at ye head of Christopher Hunt's tombstone, betwixt the View-tree and the Bellhouse nook, a headstone with A and B on it.

BRIDDONS. Are buried on the left hand of Beardsleys, just under ye drop of ye steeple, or "Nicker's Spout." ‡ Some of the Briddons are buried at ye foot of ye steps of Mr. Hodgkin's seat at the Font.

BUNTINGS. Of Over End, are buried above ye Church Porch betwixt Hunt's stone and ye great window.

MR. JOHN BUNTING. Our Curate, was buried under a flat stone on the left hand of John Bunting's stone, of Bunting Field Nook, just by ye Loft stairs.

JOHN BUNTING. Of Martin Green, was buried betwixt Mr. Bunting's stone of Bunting Field Nook, and Christopher Hunt's tombstone.

BOARS. Are buried at the feet of Sam Everard's stone, a large flat stone with some few letters on it.

BOWERS. Of Shuterlays, bury in the Church, in the middle of the middle aisle, and likewise in the nether Chancel both large flat stones lettered.

BOSTERN. (Thomas-butcher) lies buried at the head of Mr. Owtram's stone at the Bellhouse end.

BOTTUMS. Of Brockhurst, are buried at the head of Richard Hopkinson's stone, a headstone.

† "View Tree" the Church Yew Tree.

‡ "The drop of the Steeple," the spot on which the gargoyle discharged its water.

"Nicker's Spout" perhaps from some plumber who did the lead work.

BOTTUMS. Of Milltown, are buried at the head of William Towndrow's stone, betwixt ye View-tree and ye yate.

BOTTUMS. Of Ashover, are buried in ye Church Porch by Vernons, a headstone with a verse on it.

BOSTONS. Of Bull Hill House, just at the head of Edward Hodgkinson's stone.

BARKERS. (Or Goodalls) in Ashover Hill, in the corner of the Churchyard over against Mr. Bourne's yates, a headstone with W and B on it.

BARKERS. Of Kelstidge, are buried at the head of Adam Cowlishaw's tombstone, just under ye View-tree.

BARKERS. (Or Goodalls) of Dicklant, at the head of Samuel Haslem's tombstone, two headstones with T and G, and M and G upon them.

BIRKINS. Of Lea, are buried at the head of George Flint's stone, or at the head of John Flint's tombstone at the Chancel end or corner.

BEARDOWS. Of Nutting Fields, at the entrance of the Church Porch, a flat stone with letters on it.

BRELSFORDS. Of Kelstidge, at the feet of Adam Cowlishaw's tombstone, and some under the View-tree, but old Richard Breelsford and his wife are buried on the top of the hillock beyond Mr. Outram.

BEIGHTONS. Are buried at the foot of Joseph Purseglove's stone.

BIRKS. On the upper side of the View-tree, betwixt Ellen Breelsford's stone and the View-tree.

BACONS. Of Alton, are buried at the feet of Chadwicks and Samuel Wheatecroft's stone at ye Church yates, but Richard Bacon, of Alton, lies just at the head of Leonard Wheatecroft.

BOURNES. Are all buried in ye upper Chancel.

BARKERS. (thacker) of Dicklant, on the nether side of the View-tree, by William Towndrow's stone.

BARKERS. Of Hardwick, in the Church Porch, on the right hand of Parkes' stones. In each place a large flat stone with G and B on one, and R and B on the other.

BESTOCKS. Are buried just by the Church Porch below Buntions, a flat stone with S and B on it.

BASTFORDS. A little below Bestock's stone, a headstone with T and B on it.

BASSITS. Are buried just at the feet of Eastwood's stones,

BIRKS. (Old John) of Tansley, was buried just at the head of William Hall, at the feet of Obadiah Gelstrop.

BEIGHTON. (Mary) just at the feet of Joshua Hole's stone, not far from Mr. Bourne's yates.

BLANKSBY. (John of Hatchleys) buried a child just in the corner at the feet of Thomas Matley's stone.

BOWERS. Of High Ashes, buried a son, John, by old Edward Hopkinson's right hand. A headstone.

BRADLEY. (Thomas) was buried in Seavels burying place, at two little stones above ye Church yates, because Elizabeth Bradley was Thomas Seaval's daughter.

BOWLERS. Of Lea, are buried just at ye far corner of ye Chancel, a handsome headstone written.

BUXTONS. Of Lea, lie on both side of the Bowlers. Bridget Buxton was buried beyond David Bowler, and William Buxton on this near side of Thomas Bowler.

BLANKSBY. (Old Anne of Edges) buried just at the head of Christopher Hunt's stone, at Bell-house Corner.

BOWER. (Christopher of Stonehay) buried at the foot of Joseph Purseglove's stone.

BANSALL. (Richard, his wife, and son John) at the head of Phene Boston's stone.

BARKER. (John of Hockley) had a son, George, buried at the head of Samuel Stringfellow's son.

BARTON. (John of Overton) had a little child called Edward buried on the left hand of George Barker, just before mentioned.

BROADHURST. (Mary) buried at the feet of Joseph Milnes by the causey.

BRAILSFORD. (Obadiah, son of Obadiah, of Chesterfield) buried June 9th, 1733, a child.

COWLISHAWS. Of Littlemoor, are buried just at ye corner of ye pillar of Babington Quire, at the head of Stubbing tombstone as one goes to the Chancel door, a headstone with letters on it.

COWLISHAWS. Of Hay, are buried before ye Church Porch, a double tombstone with their names at length upon it.

COWLISHAW. (Adam) an old Clerk of the parish, his tombstone is under the View-tree with A and C on it.

COWLISHAWS. Of Fall Gate, buried betwixt Purseglove's stone and Cowlishaw's stone before ye Church Porch.

CHADWICKS. Of Ashover Hill, are buried at the foot of Mary Waterhouse's stone.

CHADWICKS. Are buried at the Church yates, a little stone with two interlaced triangles upon it.

CARLTONS. Of Overton, lie at the foot of Mather's stone rather nearer the Church, a headstone with Thomas Carlton's name on it. It was he that left a dole of five shillings yearly for the poor.

CHAPMANS. Are buried at the head of Jackson stone, and on the right hand of Allen Stone.

CALTONS. Of Fall Yate, are buried at the foot of Annie Mather's stone.

COWLEYS. Are buried in the near alley at Babington Quire, and at Wheatcroft's seat door.

CHEETHAM. Was buried by Will Needham.

CRICH. Are buried in the Upper Chancel, and in the nether Chancel, and likewise at the Chancel door at the threshold.

CANTRILLS. Of Fall Yate, are buried just in the yate before ye Chancel door, a flat stone with letters on it.

CANTRILL. (Joseph) of Badger Lane Yate, had a daughter buried at the head of old Richard Cotton who lies at the head of Thomas Cantrill's stone in the way ouer against the Chancel door.

COWLISHAW. (Edward) of Northedge, at the foot of Charles Wharton's stone.

COOK. (Joseph) of Mill Town, near Edward Hopkinson's stone.

COWLISHAW. (Will) of Nether Holloway, at the head of George Nuttall, among the Marchants because he married a Marchant.

COOK. George, buried his wife Mary, at the head of Robert Bansell's children.

CHEETHAM. Thomas, on the left hand of Denis Flint's stone.

DAKEYNS. Of Stubbin Edge, are buried at the Pulpit door, some are at the Chancel door under a little stone.

DAKEYNS. Of Bull Hill, or Far Northedge, lie at the Church-yard wall by Allwoods.

DAVIS. (William's) child, at the head of Thomas Matley in Blanksby's burying place.

EASTWOODS. Are buried below Leonard Wheatcroft, they have two large flat stones with letters on them.

ELLIOTS. At the head of John Wilshow's stone.

EVERARDS. Under a flat stone, lettered, at the head of Boar's stone.

EDGES. At the Bell-house end above the View-tree, on the right hand of Gregory's

EVINS. (Isaac) at the feet of John Hodgkinson, on the left hand of David Basford's stone.

FELLS. On the right hand of Mary Waterhouse's stone, at the head of George Higginbotham's stone.

FROSTS. Lie by Shepherds at the Bell-house end, a little stone with letters on it.

FRETWELLS. At the head of Slacks, over against the Chancel door in the way, a headstone with letters.

FEARN. Frank, was buried on the right hand of John Bower's headstone, at Stubbin House end

FLINTS. Of Slack, by Giles Bore.

FARNSWORTH. On Twiggs left hand.

GELSTROPS. Above the View-tree, a headstone with O and G on it.

GREGORYS. Of Ravensnest, are buried at the head of Dakeyns at ye Pulpit door, several stones with letters on them.

GREGORYS. Of High Oredish, are buried beyond the Church Porch, not far from Norman's stone.

GREGORYS. Of Ashover, are buried at the Chancel door, a little stone and a great one.

GOODALLS. Of Dicklant, lie between Job Allen's square tombstone and the Church wall, two stones with T and G on one, and M and G on the other.

GLADWINS. Are buried in a vault in Rolleston Quire.

GILLS. Are buried by Shepherd's stone at the Bell-house end, a headstone, with letters.

GREGORYS. Of Dethick, are buried at Bell-house end by Outrams, a headstone with W and G.

HODGKINSON. The Miller, had a child buried by Edward Hopkinson, who is buried at the corner of Stubbins house.

HOPKINSON. (John) of Near Northedge, at the feet of the Bowlers, at ye Chancel Nook.

HANCOCKS. Lie just in the middle of the Chancel, a flat stone.

HODGKINSONS. Near the Church Porch, several large flat stones, with letters.

HOPKINSONS. Of Press, by Thomas Millington's stone, a little stone with W and H.

HIGGINBOTHAMS. Midway betwixt the Church Porch and Chancel door, on the right hand at the foot of Waterhouse's stone, a flat stone full lettered.

HOLLINGWORTHS. Of Ravensnest, are buried below the Chancel door, a tombstone with letters on it. Some of the Hollingworths of Overton and Ashover, are buried at the middle buttress at the foot of Watkinson's, or Milward's stone.

HALLS and HILTONS. Lie at the Chancel door.

HOPKINSONS. Of Alton, are buried at the foot of Norman's stone on the right hand of Milward's or Watkinson's stone, a flat stone with I and H.

HANBURY. Henry, at the foot of Thomas Flint's stone, at the head of Nightingales of Stubbins's Yates.

HASLEMS. Of Alton, on the right hand of Hopkinson's of Alton, but something nearer William Wagstaff's stone.

HENSTOCKS. In Overton Hill, at the head of William Wagstaff's stone, a large flat stone with two letters on it.

HOLES. Of Butterley, lie near Cockeynes betwixt the yates and the Church Porch.

HUNTS. At a tombstone betwixt the View-tree and Bell-house. Other Hunts lie above Obadiah Gelstrop's stone, a stone with S and H on it.

HIDES. Lie betwixt Thomas Hollingworth's stone at the feet of Slacks of Press.

HIBBERDS. Lie betwixt the View-tree and Christopher Hunt's stone, two long stones full of letters.

HASLEMS. Of Ashover, lie by Hopkinson's of Eastwood, a tombstone and a marble headstone.

HAYS. Of Lea, lie at the feet of John Stafford, a headstone lettered.

JACKSONS and BEARDOES. Are buried by Thomas Goodall and Mary, at the head of Samuel Haslem's stone, a headstone with G and I on it.

KEMPS. Just within the Church door, a large stone with letters at full. They have likewise a child buried at the christening seat door by the Bowers.

KIRKS. Lie on the right hand of Robert Purseglove's stone.

KEMP. Mrs., (Captain Hodgkinson's sister), was buried at William Stubbin's house end.

LUDLAMS. Lie at the head of Isaac Newton's stone, by Eastwoods.

LOVETS. At the head of John Marsh's daughter's tombstone, a little flat stone, with William Lovett's name on it.

LOMASES. Are buried up in the corner above Bunting's stone, on the left hand above the Church Porch.

LANT. William, of Overend, buried a child by a stone marked with a cross, at Edward Hopkinson's head on the far side.

LOMAS. George, of Dethic, at the Bellhouse end betwixt Shepherds and Gregories.

MATHERS. Of Wash, are buried where the Godmothers stand at the Font, a stone with M. M. on it.

MILNES. At the head of Thomas Hollingworth's stone, a large flat stone with E and M on it.

MAXFIELDS. Of Press, lie under a stone before ye Church Porch, betwixt Robert Purseglove's stone, and Robert Booth's stone, it was a tombstone, but now it lies flat on the ground, it hath a T and M on it.

MAXFIELD. Of Kelstidge, by William Towndrow's stone under the View-tree, a little flat stone with letters on it.

MARSHALLS. Have three burial places, as by their two tombstones, and two flat stones with letters doth appear.

At the head of Robert Purseglove, and at the foot of William Lovitt's stone.

MATHERS. Of Fall Yate, at the foot of Robert Purseglove's stone, they have a flat stone with many names on it.

MAYS. Are buried at the foot of Joseph Marsh's stone.

MATLEY'S. In the corner of the Bellhouse, at the head of Lomas's.

MARCHANT. (John's child) of Lea, at the head of George Nuttall's stone.

NEWTONS. Lie on the left hand of Eastwoods, a headstone with I and N on it.

NEEDHAMS. At the foot of Stubbin's stone, a little stone with W and N on it.

NORMANS. Are buried at the buttress next ye Church Porch at ye head of Hopkinson's stone, a large flat stone with letters on it.

NUAMS. At the head of Newton's stone.

**NUTTALLS.** Of Lea, at Stubbin Yate, a stone.

**NIGHTINGALES.** Of Lea, are buried at the bottom of the Churchyard at Stubbin Yate, two headstones with letters on them.

**NIGHTINGALES.** Of Doho Lane, are buried up in ye corner beyond the Church Porch at ye head of Norman's stone.

**OUTRAMS.** Are buried at ye upper corner of the Bellhouse or steeple end, two flat stones full lettered.

**PURSEGLOVES.** Are buried before the Church Porch, a large tombstone with letters on it.

**PARKS.** Are buried in the Church as you goe into the middle alley, they have two flat stones with words at large set on them.

**PILKINSONS.** Lie betwixt the View-tree, and the Church-yard wall, above Benjamin Robinson's stones.

**PRESTWIDGES.** Are buried at the feet of Wood's of Milltown, they have two flat stones full lettered.

**RIGGOTTS.** Lie under the View-tree by Hibberd's stone, at the head of Adam Cowlishaw's stone, a large flat stone; but John Riggott, of Overend, lies at the head of William Towndrow's stone.

**RHOADES.** Of Ashover, in the corner over against Mr. Bourne's yates by Barkers stone. Sheldons have been buried there under that stone.

**REDFERNS.** Lie at the Chancel door, they have flat stones with letters on them.

**ROBINSONS.** Of Cold Arbour, above the Church yates, over against ye Stocks. There are three little limestones for three of his children.

**RAGGS.** Of Clattercoates and Eastwood, bury at the head of William Smedley's stone.

**ROGERS.** Lie near Hunts above the View-tree.

**RERESBYS.** Lie in their Quire and the Rollestons.

**ROLLEYS.** Are buried by Adam Cowlishaw's stone at the foot of William Towndrow's stone.

**ROOBOTHAMS.** Are buried at the left hand of Woodwards.

**ROBERTS.** Of Hawley House, at the feet of David Bowler, at the Chancel corner.

**STAFFORDS.** Lie at the feet of Thomas Hollingworth's tomb-stone, a little flat stone with I and S. †

**SHELDONS.** Lie at the feet of Alwood's and Wilshaw's stone a flat stone with letters.

**SLACKS.** Of Press, are buried in the way over against the Chancel door, two headstones with letters thereon.

**SLACKS.** Of Robriddings, above the View-tree, a headstone with S. S. at large on it.

**SEAVELS.** A little above Ben Robinson's stones, above ye Stocks, two limestones.

**SPOONERS.** Are buried at the head of Elizabeth Yates.

† The earliest record that we can find on the Grave-stones now in the Churchyard is "I.S. 1724."

**SWAINS.** Of Over Holloway, at the right hand of Sarah Nuttall's stone at Stubbins Yate.

**SPRINGFELLOWS.** Almost at Stubbins Yate, on ye right hand of ye way, a headstone with letters.

**STEVENSON.** (Robert) was buried just at the foot of Adam Cowlishaw's stone, by the east side of ye causey.

**SIGLEYS.** Are buried by Slacks, a headstone with P and S upon it.

**STEVENSON.** (James) two children at the foot of Hannah Roberts.

**SMEDLEY'S.** At the head of William Lovett, a round headstone with letters in full.

**SWIFTS.** At the head of David Wheatcroft's grave, a little flat stone with letters on it.

**SPENCERS.** Of Milltown, bury just at the Bellhouse door, in the Church, a flat stone lettered.

**STONE** Of Brockhurst, on the left hand of Robert Botham's stone, about midway between the Church yates and porch in the gate. (path)

**SHEPHERDS.** Of Slack, at the Bellhouse end, two little stones lettered.

**SPENCERS.** Of Kelstidge, just at ye Steel by ye yates, a little flat stone with A. S.

**SHEMILDS.** Of Span Car, under ye View-tree, a headstone with W.S. on it.

**SMITHS.** Of Span Car, almost as low as William Towndrow's feet.

**SIDDONS.** At the foot of Woodwards, a large flat stone lettered.

**STAFFORDS.** Of Spite-winter, at the feet of Joseph Milne's daughter.

**SCORERS.** Are buried at the head of Thomas Goodall's stones, betwixt Allen's stones, and the Church wall.

**SNEATHS.** At the feet of Arthur Wass's stone, by Elizabeth Yate's stone.

**STREETS.** At the feet of Richard Hodgkinson's stone, a large flat stone with some letters on it.

**SMITHS.** Of Lea, (gardener) at the head of Job Allsop's stone.

**SOUTHERS.** On the right hand of Theles Spencer's stone, at the foot of Booth's in the way.

**SHAYS.** Of Lea, bury by Bowlers.

**TURNERS.** Are buried in the far alley beyond the Font, just against the back door, a stone lettered.

**TOWNDROWS.** Of Millown, are buried at the head of Robert Purseglove's stone, a little flat stone lettered.

**TOWNDROWS.** Of Pecklant, a little below the View-tree, a large flat stone with W.T.

**TOWNDROWS.** Of Ashover Hill, at the feet of Isaac Newton's stone.

TOMLINSONS. Of Butterley, at the head of Richard Cowlishaw's stone before the Church Porch, a large flat stone full lettered.

TOMLINSONS. Of Over Holloway, at the feet of Thomas Hay, at the Chancel nook.

TOWNDROWS. Of Press, at the head of John Hilton's stone, at the foot of John Stubbings at the Chancel door.

TAYLOR. (Titus) a jersey comber, lies on the left hand of John Lane, and another stranger by him.

TWIGG. Mr., was buried in the open seat in the Church, at ye back door, and his wife's vault is at his left hand both walled with brick.

VERNONS. Are buried in the Church Porch.

VICARS. Are buried at Wingerworth.

WHEATCROFTS. Are buried at the head of Swift's stone. There are two headstones, and one large flat gravestone. Leonard's stone is just at the head of his stone coffin. He was Clerk of this Church 36 years, as by his gravestone doth appear. Other of the Wheatcrofts are buried at the Church yates, a headstone with L.W. on it.

WATSONS. Of Low Yate, a headstone at the Chancel with R.W. and the year 1729.

WOODS. Of Milltown, at the foot of Boar's stone, a long stone lying across, with many letters on it.

WOODS. Of Ashover, on either side of Adam Cowlishaw's stone under the View-tree.

WILLIAMOTS. On the left hand of Samuel Hunt's stone, at the head of Bosterns.

WATERHOUSES. At the head of George Higginbothom's stone, they have a large flat stone with M.W. on it.

WOSTENHAM. At the head of that stone betwixt Cantrell's and Wass's stones.

WILSONS. At the foot of Elizabeth Yates, a headstone with letters.

WOODWARDS. At the head of Siddal's stone, two flat stones with letters on both of them.

WATERHOUSES. Of Overend, on the right hand of Obadiah Gelstrop's stone above ye View-tree.

WHARTONS. Of Dicklant, over against the Almshouse door, a headstone lettered.

WHARTONS. In Ashover Hill, at the foot of Sam Stringfellow at Stubbing's Yate.

WILSHAWS. At the head of Sheldon's stone, a large flat stone with letters on it.

WHITE. (Gervaise's wife and son) on the far side of Josiah Lane.

WAGSTAFFS. On the right hand of William Rhode's stone above ye Church yates.

WHEELHOUSES. At ye head of Yarrows.

WHARTON. (George) buried a child at his father's feet.

WASSES. Are buried by Sheldon's stone at the head of Sneath's, a large tombstone but no letters on it.

WARDS. Of Doho Lane, are buried at a little stone at the foot of Samuel and Jane Hunt's stone at Bellhouse end.

WASS. (Ralph) at ye View-tree by Booths.

WARD. (George, of Matlock) on the left hand of Hannah Robert's stone at Chancel end,

WESTONS. Of Lea, are buried among the Allens, of Lea, because she was John Allen's sister.

WILSONS. Of Lea, on the right hand of old Thomas Allen, a little stone.

YARROWS. Of Press, by Sigley's stone, they have a handsome headstone with letters.

YATES. Are buried by Sneath's stone, over against the Chancel door.

### Burials in the Church.

We have been able to find records of the following persons who have been buried within the Church.

			Age	Position
1797	Aug. 13	Nodder, Mary	17	Chancel, at Vestry door.
	14	Gregory, Sarah	64	First alley in the Church
1798	Mar. 8	Bown, Elizabeth	48	Middle aisle
1799	Mar. 5	Pearce, Ann	15	Loft steps
1802	Dec. 5	Nodder, Jemima	43	Chancel, at Vestry door
1803	Jan. 16	Vernon, Ann	75	In the Porch
	Feb. 21	Bunting, Ellen	22	Loft steps
1804	June 26	Kirk, Elizabeth	77	Near Font
1805	Sept. 17	Drabwell	1	In the first Aisle
1808	Jan. 11	Twigge, Mary	40	Under Font seat
1809	Nov. 26	Nodder, John	63	At Vestry door
1811	Sept. 29	Buckley, William	Inf.	Inner Bellhouse door
1813	Feb. 12	Kirk, Ralph Sam	84	Left side of Font
1815	May 30	Gregory, John	37	Middle aisle
	Apr. 22	Berrisford, Ann	98	Bottom of Loft steps
1818	Jan. 6	Bown, Isaac	73	In middle aisle
1819	Jan. 17	Hutchinson, Wm.	51	In the first aisle
1821	May 12	Gregory, John	70	In the middle aisle
1822	Apr. 1	Milnes, Elizabeth	38	In the Church to the back door
	Apr. 11	Kemp, George	80	In the first aisle
1823	June 20	Gregory, Rose	73	In the middle aisle
1824	Nov. 11	Bamford, Wm.	69	In the middle aisle
1826	Apr. 14	Bunting, Elizabeth	85	Loft steps
1828	May 21	Gregory, John	Inf.	Under Clerk's seat

No burials took place within the Church after the Restoration of 1843-4, but in 1846 Robert Vernon, and in 1851 Mary Vernon were buried within the Porch.

### Wills.

The wills of the following persons described as of Ashover were proved at Lichfield.

1534 Hurrysdych, Richard

1538 Hopkynson, Margaret

1543 Kent, John

1544 Hopkynson, Christopher; Hunt, —

1548 Heyton, John  
 1551 Hopkynson, Henry  
 1553 Bakin, Thomas  
 1555 Chapman, Nicholas; Townrowe, Joan  
 1556 Fletcher, Christopher; Farnewoorthe, Robert  
 1557 Harison, Thomas; Howey, Ellen  
 1559 Johnson, James  
 1639 Spencer, William  
 1640 Hunt, Charles; Heathcott, Thomas; Towndrow,  
     Thomas  
 1641 Bower, Christopher  
 1646 Harvey, Nicholas  
 1647 Booth, Robert; Heb, Elizabeth; Mason als Nich-  
     olls, John; Walker, Margaret  
 1648 Alsop, William; Bower, Christopher; Fretwell,  
     Roger; Townerow, Henry  
 1649 Bower, Anne; Buxton, Edward; Bower, Alice;  
     Flynt, John  
 1650 Tagg, John; Tagg, John Senr.

Some earlier Derbyshire Wills were proved at Lincoln, but we have not been able to trace any from Ashover.

During the Commonwealth, January, 1649, to May, 1660, all Wills were proved in London, and we have been able to trace the following:—

1508 Richard Robynton, of Ashover, Clerk, probably one of the Chantry Priests.

1529 Brian Roos, Parson of Ashover, he was Rector, 1518-29.

## The Quakers.

The Quakers, who represented the extreme outcome of Puritanism, were closely connected with Derbyshire. They sprang up about 1645, under the leadership of George Fox, were known later as the "Children of the Light," and at the end of the last century as the "Society of Friends."

We first hear of them in Ashover about 1675, they seem to have been strongest in the Upperend Quarter of the Parish, both Pearsonhurst and Bunting Field being meeting places from 1682 to 1735 or later.

The principal name connected with Pearsonhurst, or Pennystone Hurst, as it was then called, is Alice Booth. She was a Woodward, of Matlock, daughter of Anthony and Ann, of Matlock Bridge End Farm, which stood near where the Crown Hotel is now built. Alice afterwards married John Bower, and in the Survey of 1816, a cottage near Bower's Mill is described at "Quakers House."

At Bunting Field, James and Hannah Low, James being Treasurer to the Monyash, or Matlock Meetings, to which Pearsonhurst and Bunting Field belonged, and in 1735 he handed over the stock to the Chesterfield Meeting. Hannah Low was a Gibbins, of Parwick, near Ashbourne.

At the Summer Sessions of 1634, Christopher Low and his wife, together with six others, all of Ashover, were charged as Recusants, but this date is a little early for the Quakers. In August, 1682, Edward Booth, Yeoman, and three others were also charged under the religious statutes.

In 1654, Thomas Towndrow for exhorting the people in the steeple house after the priest had ended his sermon, and writing on the Church door, got three months imprisonment. It is related that the words he used were, "The Church person should have a voice like a Lion, yea like a Roaring Lion."

On January 18th, 1665, several Quakers including Anthony Bunting, <sup>†</sup> and Anthony Woodward, both of Matlock were taken at a Meeting at Chesterfield and committed to prison for six months.

Under the Toleration Act, of 1689, which exempted Dissenters from the operation of the Elizabethan religious statutes, and allowed meetings for worship provided their place of worship was registered, we find "Buntingfield, 1689, Edward Booth, Quaker."

In the 1816 Survey, a portion of a rough piece of land, situated between Peasonhurst and Roach Farms is described as "Quakers Burial Ground." A charge appears in an old Monyash Monthly Meeting Book "for repairing a wall and gate at the graveyard at Buntingfield," and Registers of Burials, surrendered to Somerset House, under the Civil Registration Act, 1838, have the following entries of burials at Buntingfield:—

Name	Description	Date
Bentley, Francis	Toadhoal <sup>‡</sup>	1699/7/13
Heeward, Peter	Darley Dale	1699/12/29
Bunting, Joab	Son of Will and Mary	1700/11/8
Bunting, Eliz. ...	Wife of Isaac	1702/5/1
Alsop, Isaac ...	Son of Sarah	1702/5/17
Allsop, Isaac ...	Son of Sarah	1702/5/19
Taylor, Henry ...	Toadhole	1702/6/23
Woodward, Ann	Matlock, wife of Anthony	1702/7/23
Bunting, Mary	Wife of William	1702/11/25
Bunting, Isaac		1707/2/12
Bower, Henry ...	Age 65	1713/1/5
Booth, Mary ...		1713/3/7
Bower, Mary ...		1719/6/4
Bunting, William		1719/10/15
Booth, Edward	Son of Edward	1720/3/19
Bower, Henry ...	7 months, son of John & Dorothy	1721/11/30
Bower, Ealce ...		1729/12/26

<sup>†</sup> Born 1600, died 4th November, 1700, aged 100, buried Quakers burial ground at Tupton.

<sup>‡</sup> Toadhoal—now Two Dales.

On referring to the Deeds of Peasonhurst Farm:—

"2nd June, 1742, Except and always reserved one small piece or parcel of ground, then used as a Burying place or Graveyard, as the same was then fenced."

"Received of William Belfield the sum of Three pounds, being the amount of the purchase Money for the Burial Ground at Pennistone Hurst belonging to the friends of Chesterfield Monthly Meeting who hereby resign all right and title to the same. Signed on and on behalf of the above said Meeting held at Breach, the 8th of 5th month, 1827.

Francis T. Howitt, Clerk."

In the early days of Quakerism small headstones, bearing name and date, were erected to mark the grave, but later not only were stones not used, but those already erected were removed. It is said that about 100 years ago, one or two stones still remained at Buntingfield, but these have long since disappeared.

Titus Wheatcroft, in his Memorandum of 1722, mentions "Widow Bunting ye Quaker" as having contributed to the parish Clerk's wages, and according to the Churchwarden Accounts, the last credit entry for Quakers refusing to pay Church Rates is for the year 1772-3.

A tree situated near the Butts House is called according to local tradition, "The Gospel Tree," because John Wesley preached under it. John Wesley rode from Sheffield to Matlock Bath in July, 1761, and preached at Crich, 25th March, 1764, but there is no record of his ever having visited Ashover. But John Gratton, of Monyash, a Derbyshire Quaker Preacher and Prophet, of the 17th century, states in his journal, "Now I was much concerned in preaching the Gospel of Our Lord, and went to and fro to meetings, and many people were convinced in divers places, as in Darby Dale, (Darley Dale) Mattockside, Ashover Parish, Brampton, and in the High Peak." John Gratton was born 1641, and died 1712.

## The Recusants.

The word Recusant is strictly applied to persons who refused to worship according to established forms, and includes Non-Comformists and Dissenters, but did not include Roman Catholics, who were called Papists. The various Acts of Uniformity and Supremacy, so far as they pertain to Church attendance, do not appear to have been generally enforced in Derbyshire before 1579, but in 1634 a general return was made by the Constables, and those charged at the Summer Sessions of that year from Ashover were:—

"Geo. Hodgkinson, Constable. I present Christopher Lowe and his wife; Nicholas Harvey and Eliz. his wife; Richard Stubbing; Margret, the wife of Fra. Stubbing; Anne, the

wife of James Freeman; for being absent from the Church for the period of one month."

According to the Act of 1581, persons above 16 years of age, who are absent from Church above a month, were liable to a penalty of £20 per month. From the charges in 1634, there were 69 recognised recusants in the Hundred of Scarsdale.

In August, 1682, the charges before the Grand Jury, from Ashover were:—

"Edward Booth, Yeoman; Henry Collyer, Yeoman; Zacharias Newton, Tailor; and William Allsop, Labourer."

Under the Act of Toleration, which exempted Dissenters from the operation of the Elizabethan religious statutes, and allowed meetings for worship, provided their place of worship was certified by the Bishop of the Diocese, or before the Justice in Session, the following are recorded in the parish of Ashover:—

1672	The house of Sam Sleigh in Ashover
1672	" " " Robert Coates in Ashover
1689	" " " Edward Booth, (Quaker) Buntingfield
1692	" " " George Hodgkinson, in Dicklant, Ashover
1692	" " " Edward Hopkinson in Ashover
1692	" " " William Heath in Ashover
1692	" " " Richard Beighton in Ashover
1718	" " " Thomas Nightingale in Lea (Unitarian in 1817).
1788	Dwelling House
1826	Chapel

The last two, in 1788 and 1826, are no doubt for Wesleyan Methodism, the last being the Wesleyan old Chapel.

The Parish Register states that:—

Edward Booth, John Cleark, and Mary Booth, were excommunicated on September 16th, 1677, and Henry Bower, January 25th, 1679.

It is said that as well as the burial ground at Buntingfield, there is another at Brockhurst, which juts out of a field now known as "Phoeny Piece," but unfortunately the Deeds, which we have seen, do not go back far enough to give any documentary evidence. Perhaps this may have been a burial ground used before that of Buntingfield.

## The Constable.

Constables appear to have been officers of great antiquity for by the laws of Alfred, the freemen were to arrange themselves into tens or hundreds, and every ten freeholders chose an annual officer, whom they called "Constable" as head of the ten.

The High Constable of the Hundred, was chosen and

sworn at the Torn, as the Court of the Sheriff was called, and the Constable of the Vill. or Petty Constable at the Leet, which was the local Court of the Feudal Lord of the Manor.

The Office of Petty or Village Constable being necessary for the preservation of the peace, the Justices of the Peace, about the end of the reign of Edward III, took upon themselves as conservators of the peace, not only to swear the Petty Constables who had been chosen at the Leet, but to nominate and swear those that had not been so chosen, with the result, that in due course, Petty Constables were appointed by the inhabitants of the Parish, and duly sworn by the Justices of the Peace.

The general duty of Constables was to preserve the King's peace in their several districts, and to keep Watch during the night, and Ward during the day to prevent robberies.

The Petty or Village Constable for Ashover, would have to answer for the due performance of his duties to the High Constable of the Hundred of Scarsdale, and when elected by the inhabitants of the Parish assembled at a Vestry Meeting, would be forced to act for a period of one year without salary, or find a substitute.

The earliest record shews not only the evils that arose from these substitutes, but gives the names of some of the leading inhabitants of the Parish at that date.

"To the Right Worpli the Justices of Peace for this County of Derby, July 17th, 1649.

"The humble petition of the Inhabitants of the Towne-ship of Asheover, Sheweth. That amongst other pressures since these sad and distracted times. Wee have beene much injured by the dishonestie and disability of hireling Constables, some whereof makinge noe Accompts at all, others very remiss and unsatisfactory. For the avoidinge wherof wee made an order amongst ourselves. That every man of sufficiensie to whom it befell should serve it himselfe. Notwithstandinge ther is one Robert Flint who (although for his father's reputation being then liveinge we nominated him in our lott) was accordinge to our Ancient Costome Lawfully chosen, being held governor of his said father's estate. And had formerly served other offices within our Constablarie, Doeth not onely refuse to take the said office upon him, but contrary to our mynds hath put in one John Bore againe. Who hath tended a very imperfect account for the year last past for very great Somes of money by him gathered. Far exceedinge other Townshipps for our proportion of Trayned Souldiers. † Now our petition that the said Robert Flint may either be compelled to take the said office upon him, or

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† The assessment per trained soldier was adopted as a convenient form of levying and dated back to the time of James I, it was often used for various levies of an entirely non-militant character.

become bond to the said Inhabitants in a considerable sum of money that the said Bore shall make up a just account.

John Buntinge	Robert Norman	Immanuel Bourne
John Gregory	William Mumforth	Francis Bower
Gyles Collier	William Hollingworth	John Everatt
John Farnworth	Samuell Sleigh	Geo. Crosbe
Edward Hodgkinson	Richard Hodgkinson	Edward Buntinge
Thomas Milward	John Redfearne	Jno. Hollingworth
Will Allsoppe		

It has not been possible to find out the result of this petition but evidently substitutes continued, for in 1680 Widow Spencer was elected Constable, and she found John Bacon to act for her. The only other woman appointed since that date, was Mary Wass in 1688, when Mathew Booth acted. There are several other entries of substitutes, but it seems as if in these cases the Constable appointed was a person of some standing, and would no doubt become surety for the substitute.

The Constable had to take the oath of allegiance; he was bound to attend the Sessions; he was responsible for the Constabulary rate; he reported on parish stock, execution of warrants, and summoning of Jurors within the parish.

In 1786 John Gregory, of Gosshall, was elected Constable, and continued in office until 1811, being "Hired by Parish." The first entry in the accounts relating to salary is in 1789, "My trouble in serving this office £1 11s. 6d." No doubt the arrangement of hiring was found satisfactory as it was continued. In 1813 Benjamin Wall who remained in office till 1825, received a salary of three guineas per annum, which sum was also paid to his successor, Geo. Bamford, but taking into consideration the fees paid for work done, which would be in addition to the salary, the office of Constable, at least from the year 1800, was quite a good job.

The first Constable Accounts that we have seen is that of Geo. Wright in 1775, the total expenditure for the year was £39 7s. 8d., and a number of items relate to expenditure "on riding the Boundries."

"Spent at Not Cross, 10s. 8d., at Wilmots, £1 4s. 1d., at Betty Bamfords, £2 19s. 8d., Robt. Walls, 8s., Kelstidge, £1 1s."

This gives an indication of liquid refreshment, and we are also informed that Obadiah Allen, and Geo. Blanksby each got 1/- for carrying the Pick.

1776	Paid Edward Allen, mending Pinfold gate	8d.
1777	Paid John Smith, repairing stocks	... 17s. 6d.
1773	Brewars and Swalers Lists †	... 1s. 0d.
1774	Paid Thos. Flint for a poor mans Lodging	2d.

† Brewars—persons licensed to brew. Swalers—a pedlar dealing in articles named on his license.

1777	Writing these accompts	...    ...    ...	1s. 0d.
1778	To Adlington for eating and ale at the Examination of Weights and Measures		8s. 0d.
1779	To meat and drink for Adlington at the time they tried the Weights and Measures		8s. 0d.
1786	Pd. Wm. Wheatcroft for hand cuffs	...	5s. 0d.

Inspectors of Weights and Measures, as we now understand them, were first appointed in 1797, and according to an advertisement in the "Derby Mercury" dated January 19th, they visited Ashover for the first time on Thursday, February 2nd, 1797, therefore the above entries will most likely refer to the examination of Alehouse vessels under the Act of 1701, and the Coal measures under the Act of 1746.

The money for the Constable accounts was obtained from the Land Tax, to which was added a Levy, if required, on the whole parish.

The first Levy for the Constable that we have seen, is dated 1633. It includes the names of 92 persons, and totals £1 15s. 5d., several of the entries being for the sum of one penny. In the year 1775 the Land Tax produced £12 5s. 2d., to which was added "6 Levys," evidently on a later assessment than that of 1633, as it produced £26 18s. 2½d., also in this year £2 12s. 6d., is "received of the Lords for going the Boundries," which appears to be the last entry, as it is not credited again.

In 1798, fines of 3/- each from 67 men to be free of the Militia are credited, and in 1803 Job Carline paid a fine of £15 for the same purpose. In 1806 an agreement was made by the parish with Bower Brown, James, and John Gladwin, to pay a royalty of 3/- per ton for all grinding stones got out of Gregory Stone Quarry, the result of which is credited yearly. A note appears in 1825 of one stone, 16ft. x 4ft. 4in. x 2ft. 2in., and two 12ft. 6in. long, got out of Goss Hall Parish Quarry, for the building of Derby Goal.

The total expenditure in 1725 was £15 5s. 0d., † in 1790 £81 6s. 6d., in 1800 £101 15s. 4d., and in 1810 £184 5s. 3d., the last two totals being increased by payments on account of men for the Militia.

The cute way in which the parish officials handled the heavy expenditure necessary to provide men for the Militia, Supplementary Forces, Army of Reserve, and contributions to the Volunteers of 1803 is worth recording.

They had evidently to provide 27 men, so they instituted a ballot and accepted fines from men on the ballot list to be exempt, with the result that 399 fines were paid which brought in £276 12s. 6d. They then enlisted substitutes to whom they paid £9 9s. 0d. each, and not being able to get sufficient they sent Wm. Bamford and Benjamin Wall to

† Titus Wheatcroft M.S.S.

Stockport to hire others. In this way a total expenditure of £394 18s. 8d. was reduced to £118 6s. 2d., which they further reduced by collecting subscriptions in the parish, which brought in £41 9s. 0d. As the names of these subscribers give us the chief inhabitants of the parish in 1803 and several addresses, they are here repeated:—

The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Banks, Overton.	
The Rev. Lawrence Short, Rector.	
Geo. Allen, Stubbin Edge.	William Milnes.
Thos. Colmore, Amberhouse.	John Milnes.
William Twigg, Amberhouse.	John Twigg.
Will. Culmbell, Buntingfield.	John Nodder.
Hannah Barker, Bowers Mill.	Ralph Sam Kirke.
Geo. Mather, Notingfield.	William Outram.
Geo. Blanksby, Alton.	Dr. Sam Higges.
Wm. Hopkinson, Northeadge.	John Gregory.
David Watts, Poor House.	William Bamford.
Geo. Beardo, Pecklant.	William Eaton.
James Berrisford, Spancarr.	Edmund Hodgkinson.
Sam. Wagg, Houghfield.	John Bassett.
Mathew Berisford, Haselhurst.	Isaac Needham.
John Holmes, Uppertown.	John Goodwin, Allishead.
Benjamin Wragg, Wash House.	Joseph Bunting, Buntingfield.
Geo. Bolington, Fallgate.	Geo. Hole, Edelstow.
Will. Cantrell, Milltown.	Richard Hole, Edelstow.
Robert Waterhouse.	John Hole, Uppertown.

A charge which appears for the first time in 1790, "paid Wm. Bamford one years rent for Round House, due Lady Day, 1791. £1 15s. 0d." and again in 1800, "Rent of Round House, due March 25th, £1 15s. 0d." seems to indicate that the original Round House was pulled down prior to 1790, and that it was necessary to hire accommodation for certain periods.

In 1745 when the local forces of all kinds were enumerated and scheduled, the total number of Petty Constables in the shire was 198, of which 31 were in the Hundred of Scarsdale. The County Constabulary were formed in February, 1857, but certain work now done by the Police was carried on by the Village Constables until 1872 or later.

In Ashover the Vestry appear to have made the land-owners, or the tenants of the farms, in turn, responsible for providing a man to act as Constable for the year, and the entries are often given as follows:—

"Account of Job Allin, Constable for Highoredish Farm, for the year 1736."

"Accounts of John Lomas who served Constable for Edward Wrags, of Eastwood, for the year 1739."

It is therefore not easy to determine all the substitutes, as Edward Wrags may have been the Constable, and John Lomas the substitute, or John Lomas the Constable which Edward Wrags found at the request of the Vestry. In all these cases, we have taken the name of the person who renders the account as the Constable.

## The Petty Constables of Ashover.

1680	Widow Spencer	1714	Jno. Vicars
	Jno. Bacon †	1715	James Ragg
1681	Wm. Hunt	1716	Joo. Dethick
1682	Geo. Ragg	1717	Arthur Robinson †
1683	Jno. Bacon		James Wilson
1684	Wm. Gladwin	1718	Robert Booth †
1685	Geo. Hole		Ed. Booth
	Thomas Allin	1719	Jos. Hodgkinson
1686	Jno. Bacon	1720	Richard Brailsford
1687	Wm. Blanksby—	1721	Wm. Hilton
1688	Mary Wass	1722	Geo. Blanksby
	Mathew Booth †	1723	Jno. Rhodes
1689	Jno. Bower	1724	Jno. Rhodes
1690	Geo. Kemp	1725	Giles Cowley
1691	Wm. Needham	1726	Benj. Hollingworth
1692	Josh. Farmsworth	1727	Jno. Rhodes
1693	Samuel Clark †	1728	Jno. Gregory
	Jno. Riggot	1729	Geo. Bower
1694	Joseph Cowley †	1730	Job Berisford
	Adam Crich	1731	Wm. Rhodes
1695	Jno. Hilton	1732	Jno. Blanksby
1696	Xpother Bower †	1733	Jno. Blanksby
1697	Ed. Woodis	1734	Jos. Alsop
1698	John Ragg †	1735	Edmund Hodgkinson
	John Cantrill	1736	Job Allin
1699	Francis Bower	1737	Benjamin Wrags
1700	John Ragg	1738	John Lomas
1701	John Hilton	1739	John Lomas
1702	Arthur Robinson †	1740	Jos. Sowter
	Philip Waterhouse	1741	Godfrey Hodgkinson
1703	Thos. Hole	1742	Godfrey Hodgkinson
1704	Edward Slack †	1743	Richard Wilson
	Leo. Maxfield	1744	Godfrey Hodgkinson
1705	John Lomas †	1745	Jno. Barker
	John Blanksby	1746	Wm. Tomlinson
1706	John Ragge	1747	Wm. Purseglove
1707	Jno. Hilton †	1748	Robert Booth
	Mathew Garrow	1749	Robert Booth
1708	Jno. Ragg †	1750	Paul Frost
	Samuel Outram	1751	Archelaus Brailsford
1709	Jno. Ragg †	1752	Francis Brailsford
	Wm. Hoole	1753	Will. Williamot
1710	Abraham Redfern	1754	Wm. Smith
1711	Daniel Morley	1755	Abm. Birks
1712	Jno. Ragge †	1756	Jno. Robinson
1713	Jno. Riggot †	1757	Anthony Hopkinson
	Jno. Bower	1758	James Milnes

† Acted as substitute.

† Xpother—Christopher.

1759	Godfrey Dethick	1777	Geo. Wright
1760	Richard Hole	1778	Geo. Kemp
1761	Godfrey Hodgkinson	1779	Job Basford
1762	Richard Gregory	1780	Geo. Wright
1763	Jno. Bassit	1781	Sam Dethick
1764	Jno. Bassit	1782	Wm. Allen
1765	Jno. Woodward	1783	Chas. Wharton
1766	Wm. Williamott	1784	Geo. Berrisford
1767	Wm. Williamson	1785	Jos. Marsdaine
1768	Robert Tomlinson	1786 to	
1769	" "	1811	Jno. Gregory
1770	" "	1812 to	
1771	" "	1825	Benj. Wall
1772	Jno. Woodward	1826 to	
1773	Wm. Williamott	1845	Geo. Bamford
1774	" "	1846 to	
1775	Geo. Wright	1867	Jos. Eaton †
1776	" "		

### Thirdboroughs.

Titus Wheatcroft, in his Memorandum of 1722, informs us that four Thirdborrows were appointed on Easter Monday, being two for the Reresby Manor, and two for the Pershall Manor.

It is difficult to get any other meaning of Thirdborrow from most printed authorities, beyond that it was an equivalent term for a petty constable, but numerous entries relating to Dronfield, Darley, and Wirksworth, clearly shew that it was an office subsidiary to, and of less expense than that of the Constable, and that it may be rendered Sub-Constable.

We illustrate an account of "Edward Hopkinson, Headbarrow, 1780," at which date he is described as being the Thirdbarrow for the Pershall Manor; Arthur Riggot, as Thirdbarrow for the Reresby Manor; and George Wright, as the Constable. We can therefore safely assume that Thirdborrow and Headborow † are equivalent terms for Sub-Constable.

From 1680 to 1723, the names of the four Thirdbarrows are given, as two for the Pershall, and two for the Reresby Manors, but from 1724 only one for each Manor is mentioned; it therefore seems that the appointment of two instead of four dates from that time. Later the expenses of these sub-constables, which were for small sums, were included in the constable accounts, and from 1787 they were hired by the parish, but there is no mention of salary.

† The Police Rate was first paid on December 12th, 1857. The fee for the appointment of the Petty Constable was charged until 1867, but disallowed by the auditor in 1868.

‡ Friborugh—corrupted early Edward III. reign into Headborough, and now into Thirdborough. Thoroton Hist. Notts.

James Dithink, *Montebello*

1908. Stephanus Andrias. Nov. 1908

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In March, 1830, the Vestry order "that the Constable and Headborrow make their accounts at the same time as the Overseers of the Poor."

These Sub-Constables had evidently to take the oath of allegiance, as Edward Hopkinson charges 2/- for going to be sworn in, and 1/- for the Court Fee, also in 1833:—

"Paid at Court Leet for Headborrow Oath, 1/-."

### Coroner.

The Coroner has principally to do with the pleas of the Crown, or where the sovereign is more directly concerned. The Derbyshire rendering of the name as "Crownor" is therefore suitable.

In Ashover we are interested both in the Coroners appointed for the County, as well as the special Coroner for the Hundred of Scarsdale. The right to appoint a special Coroner for Scarsdale has been exercised for centuries by the Dukes of Devonshire, who hold this right from a charter granted by King John to William Brewere, Lord of Scarsdale dated 29th September, 1204.

Arthur Dakeyne, of Stubbin Edge, Ashover, was appointed the Coroner for Scarsdale and the County on April 25th, 1693. In 1718 a Writ was issued on the motion of the Judges of Assize, dated October 28th, directing the removal of Arthur Dakeyne, because he was "sick and no longer able to attend to his office," with the result that he was removed from his office of County Coroner, but as this Writ had no weight in the jurisdiction of Scarsdale, he continued in this office until his death in 1720, at the age of 77.

We also find in 1361 an order to the Sheriff of York to cause a Coroner to be elected for that county instead of Sir Thomas de Reresby, because "he has his abode <sup>‡</sup> in the uttermost part of the county, and may not have leisure to exercise the office." But this application does not appear to have been successful, for another order to the Sheriff was made in 1365 for removal because "he is qualified insufficiently."

### Jurors.

It was the custom in the time of Elizabeth to summon 24 good and lawful men to act as jurors, and from the lists we find:—

1561 Edvus Semp de Assheyo'

1638 Johnes Bunting de Ashover.

The following application by the Grand Jury is interesting:—

"To F. N. C. Mundy, Esq., Angell Inn, Chesterfield, 16th July, 1805.

<sup>‡</sup> Thriburgh, near Rotherham.

"We, the undersigned Grand Jury men for the Sessions held here this day having attended in Court in due time. And one of our Brethren, Mr. Hodgkinson, of Ashover, not making his appearance till after we were sworn and had proceeded to our duty but owing to the Lenity of the Court, he was afterwards sworn and the fine forgiven upon condition of his paying a Bottle of Wine—He has not dined with us nor is the Wine any object to us, but we think (with all due deference to your sentiments) that his behaviour is not consistent as a Grand Juryman, It is penurious, unsociable, and what we think shd merit your displeasure in such a way (and for example) as you shall think proper.

"J. Inman, Robert Shirt, Wm. Inkersell, Roger Bettis, David Barnes, Josiah Claughton, John Hopkinson, Thomas Hazard, John Rooth, Mark Hewitt, Geo. Taylor, Jarvis Radley. (foreman)."

## The Poor.

Charity, like Christianity, had its origin in the East. Among the European nations of antiquity we find a provision for the poor adopted as a matter of state policy.

In England up to the reign of Richard II., pauperism was treated as a crime, and giving alms to vagrants was forbidden on pain of imprisonment. The Act of 1388 was the first statute to make provision for the impotent poor, but compulsory assistance was not introduced until 1536. In 1547 the sturdy beggar was to be branded on the first conviction with a V on the shoulder, and considered as a slave for two years. He could thus be claimed by anyone, fed on bread and water, and caused to work by beating. These statutes culminated in the great Act of Elizabeth, 1601, which has formed the basis of our present poor laws.

The names of the permanent Overseers and the four collectors who were appointed yearly to administer the expenditure in the parish of Ashover, are known from 1680.

In 1597, Churchwardens and Overseers of the Poor, were ordered to build convenient houses for the impotent poor, and the first complete record we have of these in Ashover, is a list by Titus Wheatcroft, who was one of the Overseers in 1755.

"A description of the poor Cottage Houses that belong to the freeholds in the Parish (commonly called "Lords") which Paupers or others inhabit or dwell in, at this day May 16th, 1724. Those in the Ashover Quarter:—

1. John Stubbing's house in Ashover Hill, inhabited by William Hopkinson, and Lydia, wife of Giles Hopkinson.
2. John Williamot's house, inhabited by his daughter, Alice Williamot.

3. A house of two bays by Henry Smith's at the foot of Twitch Bank, built by the Parish for the use of Joseph Purseglove.

4. A house built by William Rhodes, an Overseer of the Poor, (1696) in Ashover Hill, a little below Cowley Well, inhabited by James Chadwick, his wife and family.

In Mill Town Quarter:—

1. William Boar's house, at Amber Lane Head, which was formerly William Hopkinson's, of Eastwood, and sold to the Parish by his son Giles for the sum of £3, which sum loosed him out of prison.

2. Godfrey Swift's house, which formerly was Mr. Boar's barne and stands the next, but somewhat higher in the lane. †

3. Mary Cowlishaw's house, in which are two dwellings, and is commonly known by the name of Common Bank, or Jerting Street, below ye Fall Mill.

4. Ann Adam's house, near to the gate in Jerting Street.

5. Anne Tissington's house, by John Boar's house at Slack.

In Alton and North Edge Quarter:—

1. William May's house, at or on this side of Alton, above Robert Milward's, one bay.

2. William Shemild's, at the top of Alton Town, one bay.

3. Mary Nuam's, at Press Brook, on ye right hand of the bridge.

4. Widow Dakeyne, of Stannidge.

In Overend Quarter:—

1. A house in Hodge Lane, possessed by Dumb Nan."

Of these 14 houses, we find from the accounts that one was sold in 1753 to R. B. Hodgkinson, for £2 10s. 0d., and from the Survey of 1816, we still find 13 belonging to the parish, some of which can be identified with the former list.

The Overseers evidently held other property, as in 1758 a piece of land called "Beggars Lees" was let for six years; in 1807 a parish poor lot "between Stonedge and Duke of Devonshire's Coachgate," was sold to John Fretwell, of North-edge, for £7 10s. 0d., and one shilling per load was received for clay out of pits at Peat Moss. After 1816 other houses were sold, and finally on the 23rd April, 1840, the remainder were put up for auction, and realised £117 10s. 0d.

In the year 1724 sanction was given to Churchwardens and Overseers with the consent of the majority of the parishioners in Vestry assembled, to purchase or hire any house, or contract for the lodging, employing, or keeping of poor persons.

A large bathing house with lodgings adjacent, which

† This house was sold by Giles Bore to Richard Hodgkinson, of Ashover, for Bread, who afterwards sold it to the parish for 37 shillings.

William and Paul Klemas were down the day with your first whole

Bill & Billie  
John Swigg  
13 West  
West Street  
James O'Neil  
William Godwin  
John Browne  
John George  
John C. W.  
John Bridgeman

George Miller  
George Mathew  
" " Miller  
John B. Whiting  
George Whiting  
George Miller  
George Miller  
George Miller

Thomas Villard  
Bellefonte, Pa.  
Feb. 20th 1881  
George H. C.  
George H. C.  
George H. C.  
George H. C.  
John C. Gandy  
Mr. C. G.

Commissioner Hunter  
Geo. -  
the Day  
will be held  
and when  
in Washington  
on via Major

Matthew Wright

Signatures to a Parish Deed, dated 31st March, 1812, as to the hiring  
of Servants.

would now be called a "Hydropathic Establishment" was erected in Ashover in the reign of Queen Anne, with the hopes that the attractions of the waters might rival the baths of Buxton or Matlock, but the hopes of the promoters were disappointed, and its walls stood bare for more than half-a-century. It was this building that gave rise to the formation in 1767 of the largest amalgamation of Parishes, that the Poor Law had known up to that date, and which soon embraced an area wider than many Unions of the present day. Purchased, adopted, and enlarged by the parishes of Ashover, Matlock, and Darley, other districts were invited to subscribe and send paupers to be lodged. Sixty one parishes were subscribing in 1809 to the support of 38 paupers, and 43 parishes for 61 paupers in 1833. Thomas Torr, the Master of the Workhouse, died 20th February, 1803, aged 42, he was followed by Geo. Roland, and later by Robert Warren who was the last Master. David Watts, who died 10th February, 1814, aged 56, is described as the Governor of the Workhouse.

One of the inmates, evidently dangerous or given to running away, used to walk about the village of Ashover in chains, he was evidently Peter Bollington, as the Vestry order in September, 1835, was "that his chains be taken off."

The House was closed owing to the Act passed in 1834, which started the Unions under Boards of Guardians, and the erection of the Chesterfield Workhouse in 1839.

The Overseers had the power to bind poor children as apprentices as soon as they were over nine years of age, and any person refusing to accept had to pay a fine of £10. A list from 1697 to 1828 gives the names of some 153 children which were bound, and the first refusal is noted in 1758, when John Bassett, of the Rattle paid the fine.

We have seen the account books of the Overseers covering a period 1790-1837, and the Order Books of the Committee 1806-37, and earlier extracts. The Committee was instituted 28th April, 1806, and according to the Minutes, monthly meetings were held at 6 o'clock in Summer, and 4 o'clock in Winter, at the house of Benjamin Wall, and any member of the Committee, seven in number, or every Overseer who was obliged to attend, was allowed a Quart of Ale at every Meeting at the parish expense. Later the meetings were ordered to be held at other Inns, and from notes in the books it appears as if each Tavern had been taken in turn. In 1815 the cost of Ale supplied was not to exceed 5/- but in 1828 the rules and regulations in regard to Ale were to be the same as in 1806.

The salary of the Permanent Overseer varied from time to time, from £28 to £20 per annum, and in March, 1835, Emmanuel Bassett entered into a bond of £400 on his appointment. The four Collectors each received £3 3s. per annum, but we cannot find any mention of salary before 1806, except

for writing the accounts and attending the Vestry, which in 1791 is charged 14/- and later £1 11s. 6d.

The accounts are carefully kept, they were presented at the Meetings and signed by all present at the end of the year. One cannot help noticing from these accounts the moral deterioration of the people, due to the French War, and an after effect of much the same character as at the present time.

"Aprell 12, 1814. this Accountes is Ballined, Examined By us Here pressint." It was not until 1831 that the accounts had to be sworn before two Justices of the Peace. The accounts of 1815 shew that the cost of writing paper for the year was one shilling, and the following entry, "Swindled by Adam Greenhough out of 6/—" evidently got over the difficulty of balancee.

In 1799 Doctor Richard Goodall was paid a bill for medical services, and in the same year Doctor Spencer's account amounting to £4 8s. was paid, but we can find no Parish Doctor appointed until May, 1820, when Mr. Spencer, who lived at Alfreton, was to receive twenty guineas per year for attending paupers. In 1823 Mr. Langston applied for the appointment, but was refused on the ground that the Overseers did not consider him sufficiently established in the parish to make a change. In 1832 a change was made, and Thomas Wingfield Hall, Surgeon, was appointed at a salary of £15 and in 1834 Mr. R. Goodall took up the appointment at £18 per annum, which he seems to have held until his death in 1837, at the age of 72.

The following entries are given for Medical comforts:—

1818	Widow Cundey for a bottle of Godbolds Medicine.	...     ...     ...     ...     ...	5s. 6d.
1820	Anne Wane, being very lame, advised by Dr. to have something to rub her with	...	2s. 7½d.
1822	34 Leeches on Adam Greenhough wife at 6d.		17s. 0d.
1824	Mr. Taylor, for Goulard to anoint Alice Stuard, being ill, burnt	...     ...     ...	1s. 6d.
	Waiters attending Alice Stuard all night		
	Bread, Sugar, Tea, Tobacco, Candles	...	2s. 7½d.
	One Quart of Vinegar and Pitch to use in Geo. Silkston house (having Typus fever)		1s. 4d.
1833	Job Gregory for Poultice for lame foot	...	2s. 0d.

Godbolds medicine was a vegetable balsam, and according to the advertisement in the Derby Mercury, March, 1803, was a cure for Coughs, Colds, and Asthmae.

Leeches were often used, Elizabeth Handbury, a midwife, seemed to have had a large stock, but the price of sixpence each fell to fourpence when Mary Tallents, of Littlemoor, and Catherine Hopkinson started in competition. Thirty four seems excessive, but perhaps the entry concerning the 6/- in 1815 may not yet have been settled.

In 1825 eighty seven are charged for on Lydia Henstock, but the numbers evidently became excessive, as in 1830 they were in future to be charged to the Doctor, and not to be paid for by the parish.

Alice Stuard died, for there was an inquest, and the funeral cost £1 5s. 11d. In 1790 the cost of burial was 14/2, a coffin cost 7/2, but in 1818 an item gives us full details:—

"Funeral Expences. Sugar, Tea, Bread, Cheese, Ale, 9/10. Coffin and Shroud, 15/10, Fees 3/1."

In 1835 no money was to be allowed for paupers funerals, and the Overseers had to take account of their goods. This order evidently meant that the goods were held as security, as in 1836 John Beresford had at his death a feather bed which was held against 20/- advanced for his funeral.

The removal of persons to other parishes where they belonged was evidently an expensive business.

"That the Attorney for the Parish shall be empowered to act, to get quit of Mary Smith, and the whole or part of her children to Dudley."

1818	Isaac Needham, taking Mary Smith, and 6 children to Dudley. Horse and Cart	£2 10s. 0d.
	Going to Dudley with Mary Smith, out 5 days	10s. 0d.
	Expences on Smith, children and self	£2 8s. 0d.
1819	Geo. Bamford for time and expences, for himself and others, searching for Mary Smith, she having returned, after being removed to Dudley	£6 14s. 9½d.
1826	Mary Smith to Dudley	£15 14s. 2d.

The following items are interesting:—

1821	Catching Moles, being the last payment of their bond made for 21 years	£15 15s. 0d.
1824	Money paid for 3 Foxheads	£1 0s. 0d.

We find on referring to the Churchwarden Accounts of 1739 that it was agreed not to pay more than 5/- for killing a fox within the Parish, but in February, 1833, it was ordered, "that no more money should be paid."

1833	Wm. Wharton's family (him in prison) Dog Tax and Expences	5s. 0d.
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The Collectors appear to have had a good time when settling the accounts:—

1819	Geo. Allen (Swan) for Highways Accts	£3 8s. 0½d.
	ditto for liquor at Settleying the Accts	£1 10s. 0d.

This charge for Liquor was evidently considered excessive as later the item reads:—"As allowed at Settleying the Accts £1."

Under the heading of Clothing we have:—

1790	Mary, two shifts	5s. 7½d.
	pr. of Blankets and a sheet	9s. 8d.

1791	flanel 2½ yards at 13d. Handkerchief 16d. ...	4s. 0½d.
	making a shirt and thread ... ...	8d.
	Linen cloth for shift ... ...	2s. 11d.
1793	Anthony Towndrow for making a pair of Breeches... ... ... ...	1s. 0d.
1821	Knitting one pair of Hose, and footing one pair ... ... ... ...	1s. 11d.
	12½ oz. of Worsted for same ... ...	2s. 7 d.
1827	Ann Goodall, Brat,† Skirt, etc. ... ...	2s. 1½d.

We also find items relating to instruction and apprentices:—

1824	David Marriott, for instructing Jane Lomas in the Framework Knitting business one month £2, received of him for her months work 3/- ... ...	£1 17s. 0d.
1821	Clerks for Indentures of 3 boys at 14/- ... Arnett Kirk (going to place) clothes per Bill ... ... ...	£2 2s. 0d. £1 5s. 4d.

But it is not until 1833 that we find any account of tasks or work being done, except work on the Highways:—

1833	Mary Wood, spinning 9lbs of Harding at 8d. 30 lbs. of Harding at 6d. per lb. ...	6s. 0d. 15s. 0d.
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The expenses allowed to the collectors seem very moderate:—

1820	Going to Southwingfield with Benj'm Wall for Geo. Hawksley and taking him and Josh. Cowley to Chesterfield, ... ...	3s. 0d.
	Expences on Wall, Hawksley, and self, waiting long ... ... ... ...	4s. 5½d.
	Going to Derby with Geo. Bamford to make enquiry about Geo. Hodgkinson ... ...	3s. 6d.
	Expences on Bamford and self, out above 18 hours ... ... ... ...	7s. 6d.
	Robert Holmes for two horses to Derby ...	8s. 0d.
	Expences for horses at Derby, Hay, 1/-, Corn, 10d., Hostler, 8d. ...	
	Whatstandwell Bridge, Corn, 10d., Tolls, 8d.	

From other entries we find 1/- for Matlock or Chesterfield; 3/- for Mansfield or Sheffield; but "waiting long" as a rule increased the sum charged for "expences."

The accounts end December, 1837, when the balance in hand was paid to the Treasurer of the Chesterfield Union, and after that date the Union Officials sent a cart from Chesterfield with Tea, Sugar, and other groceries, which were distributed to the poor from the Club Room of the White Lion Inn, in Ashover.

The first Assessment for the Poor that we have seen is

† Brat—Apron

dated April 27th, 1693, which brought in £16 2s. 9d. for the whole parish, in 1725 the sum collected was £115 18s. 1d.

The expenditure in 1790 was £250 13s. 6d., in 1800 £589 10s., in 1813 £950 13s. 3d., in 1828 £1600 9s. 9d., and in 1836 £812 2s. 1d.

The year ending March, 1818, when the expenditure was £1538 10s. 2d., was the hardest time for the poor, in consequence of the dearness of provisions. The average price of wheat during the previous year was 94/9d. per Qr. A labourer got what he could for his labour, and received the remainder in parish pay.

The Vestry Clerk in 1790 was William Snibson, in 1796 John Gregory, in 1818 Josh Cawood, who was also the School Master at the Hill School. In 1828 Geo. Allen appears to have been the Clerk as he was fined 1/- for being absent, and his salary of £9 per year is confirmed in 1835 and 1837.

1821 Paid Mr. Josh Cawood, Vestry Clerk, for  
3 years writing     ...     ...     ...     £36 12s. 0d.

The Committee came to an end in October, 1837, with the appointment of Guardians to the Chesterfield Union.

## Criminal.

Up to 1566 the prison for felons for the counties of Nottingham and Derby was at Nottingham. The prison at Derby was built 1588, the House of Correction at Chesterfield 1615, and the Goal for Debtors under the Town Hall of Chesterfield about 1790.

Village Constables and other Parish Officials could whip vagrants of both sexes under the Acts of Henry VIII., of which they freely availed themselves. The whipping of female vagrants was stopped in 1791. The pillory, by which the head of the offender was exposed in a confined and painful position in some public place, could be used up to June, 1837. The Stocks, mostly used for petty offences such as drunkenness, and resisting the Constable, have not been used in Derbyshire since 1829.

## Murders, Highway Robbery, etc.

1269 "Henry of Gilbert de Essoure quarrelled with Richard the son of Emma of Stretton and wounded him in the belly with an arrow in the vill. of Essoure, so he died the 4th day after. Henry fled at once, he is of evil report. His chattels are valued at 71 shillings for which the Sheriff will answer."

1341 A woman and two men were gibbeted on Ashover Moor, for murdering one of the King's purveyors.

1819 Thomas Hopkinson, aged 20, of Ashover, executed April 2nd, at Derby for Highway Robbery. He was one of those who set fire to Col. Halton's stacks at South Winfield for which 4 men were executed August 15th,

1817, but he was admitted King's evidence against his companions. He was known to have been a desperate character, but was eventually condemned for stealing a whip from a coach.

1832 Samuel Chadwick, of Crich, a man of weak intellect, on August 22nd, called at Cold Harbour Farm, High Oredish, and asked Susanna Sellars, aged 30, who was at work at the stocking frame, for a drink. When she turned to go and fetch him what he required, he attacked her with a chopper and split her head.

1841 John Towndrow, aged 60, farmer, of Milltown, on June 10th, murdered his wife with a hammer and cut her head off, he afterwards cut his throat. He was buried at 9 o'clock at night, after the verdict of the Jury, and put into his coffin with all his clothes on except his shoes.

1857 James Simpson, of Appletree Knoll, was attacked and shot behind the left ear on Ashover Hill, about 5 o'clock in the evening, when returning from Alfreton market. He died 8 o'clock the same evening, without uttering a word, buried in the Churchyard, November 17, aged 31.

### Profiteering.

1370-1 From the Roll of the Mayoralty of John Samon. Nottingham. Longrowe, Johannes Jurdon and Johannes Glasenwryghte, petty Constables, charged among others Simon de Aschover for selling ale against Assize, which was for selling ale at a higher price than that fixed by the Assize.

### Swearing.

1651 November 17th. "The Information of William Hiberd, of Ashover, taken before mee Samuel Taylor, Esq. one of ye Justices of Peace within ye said County:— This Informant sayth that upon Fryday night beeing the fourteenth day of this Instant November Richard Dakin, of Ashover, gentleman, beeing farr gone in drinke, and quarelling with the said William Hiberd swore twenty severall oathes and was very much debysted other wayes."

Under the Act of 1624, the penalty was a fine of 1/- or in default 3 hours in the Stocks. †

### Seditious Language.

1744 "The Information of Benjamin Barker, of Matlock, in ye said County, taken upon oath ye 23rd day of June:— This Informant upon his oath saith that on ye 20th June,

† Under the Act of 1695, the fine of 1/- was confined to Servants, Labourers, Common Soldiers, and Seamen, for others the fine was 2/- for the first offence, for the second double, and for the third treble. Parsons were to read this Act in their Churches the next Sunday after Quarter Day yearly, immediately after Morning Prayer.

Instant John Lewis, of the Liberty of Lea in ye said County cursed the King (to wit) George ye 2nd and Dammed him saying 'Dam ye King.'

### Morality.

1632 William Edwards, Minister of Ashover, William Wing, Clerk, three of the Churchwardens, and other of the chief inhabitants testify to the death of an illegitimate child and pray that the recognizance of the father be withdrawn.

### Punishments.

"Of members ye tongue is worst or best,  
An ye tongue ofte doeth breedre unreste."

The Cucking, or Ducking Stool, was chiefly used for women who caused mischief. It consisted of an arm chair secured to the end of two strong beams 12 or 15 feet long. The Scold being well fastened in the chair, the two beams placed as near the centre as possible across a post on the water side, and being lifted up at one end, the chair with the occupant of course drops into the cold element.

The Brank, consisted of a framework of iron which was locked upon the head, and fitted in front with a gag, a plate, or sharp cutting knife, placed so that if she moved, or attempted to speak, the tongue was badly cut. With this cage upon her head, she was paraded through the streets, led by a chain in the hand of the Beadle or Constable, subject to every insult and degradation. The Chesterfield Brank is dated 1688.

Stocks, first mentioned in the reign of Edward III. were established in every village by order, in 1405. In many large houses, private Stocks existed for the correction of servants. A ring attached to the Stocks was used as a whipping post, and there are many records of the sum of four pence being paid for whipping.

Riding the Stang, was a rough and ready way of shaming a husband who ill-treated his wife. A cart with a long pole in it, on which was placed a representation of the offender in straw, was drawn up and down the village, accompanied by shouting, jeering, and horn blowing. At length the cart was pulled up opposite the offender's house, and a doggerel recited recounting the man's offences. This was repeated for three successive nights, and on the last occasion the effigy was burnt in the street.

### Military Record.

Under the Anglo Saxons, all men were required to bear arms as a sort of body rent or service for the land they held. A Military force was established, land being made the basis of numbers, and families the foundation of discipline. Orig-i-

nally ten families made a Tything, and 100 Tythings made the Hundred. Hundreds were united in Counties, each under its own Duke. By this means every holder of land was bound to produce one or more men fully equipped, arms were annually inspected, and the lending or selling of arms was illegal.

From the Musters for the County of Derby of 1558:—  
Assheover, able men without equipment 15 (Archers 5  
Billhook men 10.

From the Musters of 1587:—

Dethicke, Tansley, and Leay, (which are given in the Worksworth Hundred <sup>†</sup>) Robte. Grenesmyth, and Thomas Mather, archers; John Statham, corselet <sup>‡</sup> billman. Ashover Thomas Marshe, musketeer; John Bower, archer; Gyles Greenall, corselet pikeman; Leonarde Lowe, corselet billman. All selected men appointed trained soldiers, called up in expectation of the Spanish Invasion, to present themselves at Chesterfield, November 6th.

Levy of Derbyshire, men for Ireland, March 8th, 1598:—  
George Thorpe, of Ashover.

Levy of men for Ireland, 1601:—Tho. Stubbing, of Ashover, being one of the 50 men raised in the County, to be delivered to Joabe Lavender, and conducted by him to the port of Chester.

Chesterfield, May 26th, 1621. Trained soldiers with equipment, and private armed men supplied by the lords of the Manor, reviewed by Sir Francis Wortley, Bart., Sir Geo. Manners, and Peter Frechvile, Kt. Those from Ashover were Trained men:—George Hodgkinson, and John Tagg, musketeers; Gyles Greenough and Anthony Prestwyge, corselet billmen. Private men:—Francis Bunting, Ralph Crich, Robert Haslem, John Gregory, John Low, John Hill, Henry Townerowe, Geo. Hodgkinson, James Purseglove, Leonard Cowley, and Elizabeth Sleigh, all musketeers. Arthur Dakin, gentleman, corselet billman.

So we had women warriors in those days but perhaps a substitute was found, as the heavy armour and musket would be beyond the strength of most women.

"Whereas on the 4th year, 1715. His Majesty Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Derby, did apoynt the parish of Ashover in the said County, should find and answer for 5 trained soldiers besides what the said parish was apoynted for Horse service, and did then apoynt Mr. Samuel Bourne, Arthur Dakeyne, Thomas Millward, Charles Bower, and William Wilson to be principals for the said 5 trained soldiers to provide men and arms for the said 5 soldiers at one days

<sup>†</sup> These are also given as being in the Worksworth Hundred in 1596, in a report dealing with arrears of taxes.

<sup>‡</sup> A Corselet was plate armour, covering the body. Pikemen were armed with a pike, and Billmen with a billhook.

notice and the said principals are each to account for the sum of thirty seven shillings and six pence."

"29th July, 1719. Whereas my Brother Mr. Samuel Bourne is dead. I do acknowledge that I will answer for his share of the money, and also for the soldier apoynted for him to provide and find according to law. Obadiah Bourne, Rector, Ashover."

## Taxes.

The first record of Assessment is from the Domesday Book, when the whole parish was assessed at thirty shillings.

Subsidies or Aids were granted by Parliament to the Crown on various occasions for Royal or Imperial purposes, and were levied upon landowners in respect of the annual value at the rate of four shillings in the pound, and upon other persons in respect of their moveable goods, including crops, on the gross value, at the rate of two shillings and eight pence in the pound. Persons with goods of less value than £3 were exempt.

September 3rd, 1599. One entire subsidy Ashower.

Eliz. Criche	for land	6/-	Leonard Cowley for goods	...	8/-
Richard Dakin	" "	6/-	Robert Viccars	" "	8/-
Robert Calton	" "	8/-	John Allsebruck	" "	8/-
Godffrey Bunting	" "	4/-	Thom. Rowbottam	" "	8/-
Anthony Wagstaffe for goods	10/8d.		Roerert Haslem	" "	8/-
Geo. Holme	" "	8/-	Thom. Crofs	" "	8/-

In 1577 there were two Taverns in the Village, one kept by Gylis Greenwood, and the other by William Wheatcroft, also two Ale Houses.

Excise was introduced in 1661. The Duty \* was paid by Innkeepers and Victuallers, on sales according to a monthly return, an Excise Officer † residing in the village. A licence for a Tavern was introduced in 1641.

Leonard Wheatcroft states that he made his application for his licence to the Honorable Bench at Chesterfield, on April 20th, 1677, as follows:—

" May it please the Bench, this day to grant to me,  
Your Worships License, that I may be free,  
To brew, to sell, keepe food for horse and man,  
For all that coms, pay but a penny a can.  
Rare bottell-ale if aney soule doe mind it,  
At Hand and Shears in "Asher" you may find it.  
With severall sorts of English naping ‡ Lickner,

\* The Duty on Beer and Ale was 15 pence per barrel if sold for above 6/-, and 3 pence per barrel if sold under 6/-.

† Samuel Lee, Officer of Excise, died May, 1784, aged 71. Ellis Wood-roofe, Excise Officer, in 1816, Bray, Excise Officer, in 1846.

‡ Naping—evidently from Nappy meaning strong, or heady

"An' whyles twaepennie worth o' nappy,  
Getting fou and unco' happy."—Burns.

T'will make the dullest sperits seeme quicker.  
 Then Backus Like, each man with glasses fettell,  
 Hectorian Like, shewing yourselves brave mettell,  
 Sober and wise, if otherwise you find them,  
 I hope your Worships will be pleased to bind them.  
 To that they never say, tis pitty.  
 Cause ther's so many now in Towne and Citty.  
 May it please you all to grant me my request,  
 And in that calling I will doe my best,  
 To please the King, the Judge, and Justice two,  
 And waite on him that daily houldes the plow.  
 And all men else, Excepting the Excise,  
 Because they daily make of me a prise,  
 Gaging my vessels, with galland rule,  
 I wish such gagers may out gage the . . .  
 All this is trew, I to your Worships say,  
 Give me my License then I'le goe my way,  
 And for the same, I'le for your Worships pay,  
 If you'll dispatch, I will no longer stay."

To support the King's crown and dignity, Parliament granted to Charles II. in 1662, the first English tax in respect to houses, namely 2/- for every Hearth if the annual value of the house exceeded 20/-. This tax was also called the Chimney Tax.

The Hearth Tax in 1695, chiefly owing to the difficulty of inspection, and the opposition of the people to admit the assessors into their houses, was converted into a tax on Windows, which is often quoted as the reason for the windows being so small in old houses.

This statement is not correct as the Window Tax was 2/- on a house with less than ten windows, 6/- from 10 to 20 windows, and 10/- for a greater number. The true reason for the small windows in old houses, was partly protection, but chiefly the high cost of glass, as several records exist of Gentry removing the glass from their windows during a period of absence.

The charges payable were changed and increased several times during the 18th century, and the tax was repealed in favour of the Inhabited House Duty in 1851.

From the Constable accounts 1798-99:—

May 26th.	Attending for Window instructions	... 2s. 6d.
June 9th.	To Chesterfield, delivering Window Dubleycate, (duplicate)	... 2s. 6d.

We have been fortunate in finding this Assessment, which not only relates to Windows, but includes taxes on Rateable Value, Male Servants, Carriages, Riding and Draft Horses, and Dogs, and from this we learn that:—

Two hundred and three houses in the parish, paid a total

sum of £115 13s. 6d. for 1,388 windows, the lowest charge being 4/6 for six windows.

Sir Joseph Banks, Overton Hall	...	75 windows	...	£28 0s. 0d.
William Milnes, Butts House	...	21	"	£8 4s. 0d.
John Nodder, Marsh Green ...	...	22	"	£8 16s. 0d.
Rev. Lawrence Short, Rectory	...	16	"	£5 4s. 0d.
George Allen, Stubbins Edge ...	...	12	"	£2 16s. 0d.
Francis Thomson, Hill House...	...	9	"	£1 7s. 0d.

On Rent, Sir Joseph Banks paid 10/- on a Rateable Value of £15. Mr. John Nodder, William Milnes, John Twigg, and the Rev. Short, each paid 3/4 on a Rateable Value of £5.

On Carriages Mr. John Nodder paid for one carriage with four wheels, £9 12s. 0d.

On Riding Horses, 14 in the parish were paid for at £1 4s. 0d. each.

On Draft Horses, 296 are charged, 113 being exempt, which brought in £88 16s 0d.

On Dogs, 39 are charged at 4/- and 41 at 6/- each, of which Mr. Nodder paid at the higher rate for 20 as being for the Ashover Hunt Hounds.

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